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15th JUNE, 1985

The
REAL
Me

Charlie Nicholas

**Bryan
Robson
IFACE
AXE**



Champion
colour

**Scotland's
Hampden
Cup Win +
Aberdeen and
Bradford City**

England's Glenn Hoddle is
first to the ball against
Jim Bett of Scotland.

Why Spurs lost the title

Australia — 75c; New Zealand — 75c; Malaysia (by air) — \$2.25; Italy — £2.300; Denmark — Kr.11.00.

Charlie Nicholas is out on the town every night of the week, living it up in the nightclubs of London with a string of model girlfriends. My life is one long round of parties and discos, with the occasional football match thrown in for good measure. And training? I hardly bother!

If everything that has been printed about me were correct, then that would be a pretty accurate description of my way of life.

In fact, it couldn't be further from the truth and this week I'd like to introduce you to the REAL Charlie Nicholas.

Far from being out in clubland every night, I spend most of my time at home in my North London flat — alone!

'I get lonely'

In fact, it can get pretty lonely at times — but that sort of thing doesn't make headlines.

Sure, I enjoy unwinding after the big match on Saturdays, but I'm certainly no exception on that score. Even footballers are allowed time off for good behaviour!

The proper Charlie



People love to compare me to George Best, but apart from the ability to attract headlines we have very little in common.

I've met George a couple of times and he strikes me as being rather shy. Not me. I've always been a lively, confident sort, although I must admit that my two years in London have changed me.

'My biggest mistake'

That's not to say that I have become a total misery, but I am much more wary of people.

When I arrived from Glasgow I took everyone at face value, and that was



probably my biggest mistake.

Now I'm naturally suspicious of people's motives, and that is a terrible thing to have to admit.

I realise I've been terribly naive, getting myself into situations I should have avoided.

Some of the publicity I've attracted has been bad for the image of Arsenal FC, and I've been the first to accept any criticism which has been justified.

Thankfully, Don Howe realises that a lot of the headlines are a load of rubbish.

For instance, remember that story about my demanding a four-figure fee to go out to lunch with a punk millionaire? The first thing I knew about it was when I was



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Star writer Charlie Nicholas

on a plane with the Scotland squad and Kenny Dalglish handed me a newspaper with the full story! I'd never even heard of the girl before.

Unfortunately, the situation has now got so bad that I have had to concentrate on projecting myself in a completely new light.

I'm not changing my lifestyle. But I am making a conscious effort to highlight the real me.

People have suggested that I should get involved in charity work and fund-raising schemes. In fact, I already spend a lot of my time visiting hospitals and working for people such as the Variety Club. But it's not the sort of thing you like to make a big thing about.

I also have a new agent, Jerome Anderson, and the fact that he is an avid Arsenal fan should be a great help.

He tells me that his job will be to take a lot of pressure off my shoulders because he wants to see the best of

Posing with models is definitely out. From now on I'm concentrating on playing for Arsenal — with a few visits to the Great Ormond Street Hospital thrown in for good measure.



Charlie Nicholas at Highbury next season. I just hope I can fulfil my part of the deal.

I've known Jerome for quite a while. He helped me find my current home after I discovered that a four-bedroomed house was far too large for my needs.

I just wish he'd been around when I arrived at Highbury from Celtic when everyone and his dog wanted to be my friend.

'I've been a fool'

I couldn't believe all the attention my transfer had created, and I admit I fell in love with all that "Champagne Charlie" rubbish.

I was a fool to get involved in silly publicity stunts, having my picture taken with models and being seen in all the best places before I'd even kicked a ball for Arsenal.

Most of all I feel sorry for my family and friends back in Glasgow. What must they think when they read all these stories about me?

I feel I've grown up a lot in the past couple of years and hopefully I'm now able to spot potential pitfalls before rushing into anything.

One of my greatest problems in the past was having a pop star image without being able to lead a pop star lifestyle.

Deep down inside, I know I can't change. I always like to do the unexpected, particularly out on the football field, and I believe this is one of the reasons the Arsenal fans have been so good to me.

I don't like taking the easy way out and making a safe pass. I like to take people on and run for goal.

I'm glad the 1984-85 season is over because it certainly wasn't my best. Now I must recapture my appetite for goals which made me such a hit at Celtic and start to give the Arsenal fans something to really shout about.

Charlie Nicholas

YOU & ME

FROM THE EDITOR'S OFFICE

MORAN OFF - Diabolical!

I'VE received a flood of letters about Kevin Moran's controversial sending-off in the F.A. Cup Final. The majority blast the decision of referee Peter Willis.

Mike Fuller, from Stockport writes: "It was diabolical. Television replays clearly proved Moran was going for the ball."

"Even Peter Reid, the Everton player involved, came down on Moran's side and agreed the tackle was a bit late, not blatant. It's the referee who should have been sent-off."

Embarrassing

Mrs. Sheila Whiteside (no relation to Norman) from Norwich, thought withholding Moran's medal until the following week was a disgrace.

"I'll never forget the look on the lad's face as he walked down from the Royal Box."

"Sending him off was punishment enough. Surely the F.A. did not have to embarrass him and the Duke of Kent as the rest of the team received their medals."

Ref was right!

But Mark Francis from Brentwood, in Essex, defends Peter Willis.

"It was the right decision. In my opinion the referee deserves credit for clamping down on one of the most disgraceful acts in the game — the so-called professional foul."

"Peter Reid was in a good scoring position when Moran took him out. Reid even needed treatment."

"It was a foul — a nasty foul and Moran had to go."

"Full marks to Peter Willis for making one of the bravest decisions ever seen."

● F.A. rules clearly state the medal may be withheld from a player sent-off at the discretion of the F.A. But in Kevin's case — being the first of its kind — the F.A. was right to decide to grant him the winner's medal. They were also right in sounding the warning that anyone sent-off in future will not be given the same reasonable treatment!

THE BOOT FOR BOB

● I was upset to hear that Southampton have given my pal Bob Higgins the boot after 12 years service.

Bob was the club's Youth Development Officer and as such was responsible for discovering stars such as Danny Wallace, Steve Williams, Austin Hayes and Rueben Agboola.

Bob's a top coach and has had offers from other League clubs to organise a set-up similar to the one he founded at Southampton.

"But I might start my own coaching academy and bring the players through," says Bob.

Pen-pals corner

● Pen pals wanted from all over the world to exchange football souvenirs. Write to Shiyundi Nomura, Cx Postal 061, V. Grande Pta. (SP), CEP 06730, Brazil.

● Paul Weston of 2 Gwenole Avenue, Braunstone, Leicester, is 8, and would like to hear from a reader who supports Aberdeen, Rangers or any Polish team.



Ed's Teaser

A miner in 1946, but he went on to become one of England's greatest centre-forwards with Bolton. Who is he?

There are £5 postal orders for the first five correct entries after the closing date, Friday June 14th, 1985.



Road to Wembley

JUST before the F.A. Cup Final I entertained a very special SHOOT fan from Canada — yes, we sell there, too. It was part of the first prize offered every year by Toronto television's Channel 47 during their 'Road to Wembley' run-up to the big match.

The winner, Ellen Corcoran, came along to the SHOOT offices for a look-around with Michele Gregory, the companion she was allowed to bring with her, and for lunch in our restaurant.

We had arranged for several players to join us for lunch, but unfortunately they had to drop out

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When Ellen office they we T-shirts and p anticipating the — the F.A. Cu United and Ev

And we on to putting the next lucky pa



Trevor Brooking
SHOOT's special

YOU W

It was always thought Peter Taylor was the talent-spotting inspiration behind his celebrated partnership with Brian Clough.

But Cloughie is still proving he has an eye for a bargain. If anyone doubts it, just take a look at Scottish defender Jim McInally.

Just over a year ago the 22-year-old full-back was getting a break from playing in Celtic's reserve side by being loaned out to Dundee.

That's where Forest spotted him, quickly negotiated a £55,000 deal and in the last 12 months McInally has made the kind of strides that are attracting the attention of Scotland chief Jock Stein.

Plain sailing

McInally's marvellous first season in English football was capped by his election as Forest's "Player of the Year" ... but it hasn't always been plain sailing.

He explained: "Naturally when I came to Forest I was hoping to get a chance in the first team ... and it seemed like ages before that came about.

"But I had myself to blame for that because I was not really doing myself justice. I couldn't really complain about

King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS.

Road to Wembley Winner

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We had arranged for several players to join us for lunch, but unfortunately they had to drop out

as Spurs, Chelsea and West Ham had important matches to play.

But Ellen and Michele were thrilled to meet Trevor Brooking, and Ellen — a lifelong Liverpool fan — was able to speak on the telephone with Ray Clemence, her idol from Anfield days.

When Ellen and Michele left the office they were laden with SHOOT T-shirts and photos, and eagerly anticipating the climax to their trip — the F.A. Cup Final between Man. United and Everton.

And we on SHOOT look forward to putting the red carpet out for the next lucky pair in 1986!



Trevor Brooking helps to entertain SHOOT's special guests from Canada

Ed's Teaser

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"But I had myself to blame for that because I was not really doing myself justice. I couldn't really complain about

being kept waiting in the reserves.

"I made my debut in a 3-1 win against Norwich and was then left out because the boss did not want to risk me in a UEFA Cup tie against Bruges.

"I understood the situation but must admit that I felt so low at one time I wondered whether I might have to go back to Scotland to get first team football.

"But I told myself to stick with it and after getting into the side because of injuries just before Christmas, not much has gone wrong since. "I still find it difficult to appreciate how well it's gone for me after an unhappy start.

"I think I can become a better defender and I would like to do a wee bit more going forward, so I can't afford to sit back on what has happened over the last five months of the season.

"It's nice to hear people talking about me in terms of Scotland but I have got my hands full maintaining my form and my place in the Forest side."

But Clough has no doubt that his young "find" from North of the border can make a name for himself.

He argues: "Jim has been a revelation and if he continues to make the kind of progress he has achieved so far, he's got to have a chance with Scotland."



**Cloughie's
order to
'Player of the Year'**

McInally



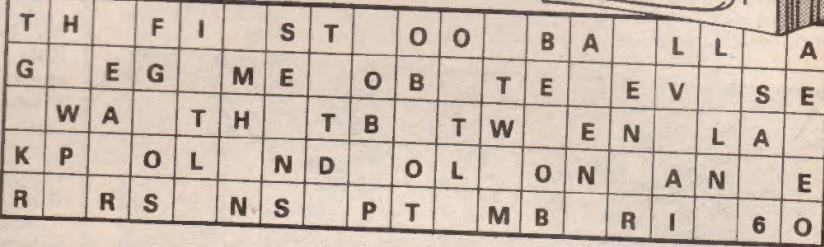
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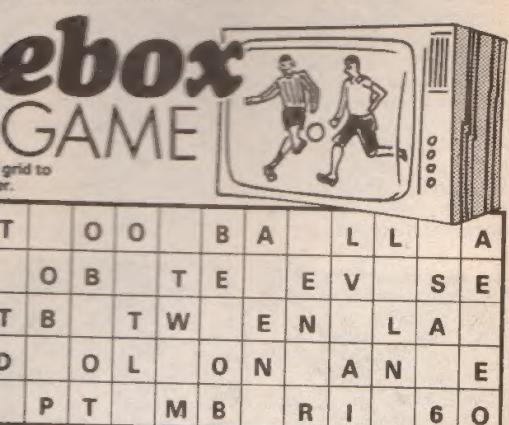
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Andy Blair end-of-term report *Can do better*

ANDY BLAIR played 51
first team matches last
season — and that's a feat in
itself.

Over recent seasons Andy has
found difficulty in holding down a
regular place with first Coventry
and then Aston Villa. But his
move to Sheffield Wednesday
turned out to be both
inspirational and of mutual
benefit.

"It was a great compliment to
me when I discovered Howard
Wilkinson wanted me in his
team," says Andy.

"My father and I used to have
bets on Notts County results
when Howard was there with
Jimmy Sirrel, because they did
amazingly well to keep the club
in the First Division.

"He is a highly intelligent man
who commands great respect. I

have learned an enormous
amount from him in the space of
a few months."

That much is evident from the
fact that Blair was a huge
success at Hillsborough, winning
rave notices almost weekly from
the national Press.

"I was pleased with my form,
although I made mistakes and it's
really like an end-of-term report
which says 'Can do better'.

More goals

"I'm sure I'll be a stronger
player next season, but I must
score more goals.

Blair is immensely modest and
quick to praise his team-mates.

"I really couldn't ask to play
with a better bunch of lads, or for
a better management pair than
Howard and Peter Eustace.

"I have always been
interested in the history of the



Blair beats QPR 'keeper Peter
Hucker from close range during
Sheffield Wednesday's 3-1 home
win in April.

mining community, and with their
tradition, Wednesday was the
ideal club for me to join.

"I was so pleased when the
miners' strike ended, because
those people have had a tough
test yet they continued to
support us.

"Average gates of 25,000 were
amazing in view of the situation,
and I was thrilled when they won
the title of the Best Supporters in
the country. They are the most
honest people I've ever met."

Blair acknowledged that the
past year has seen a great
change in his fortunes.

He also believes that the
future for Sheffield Wednesday
will be terrific.

"We were very disappointed
about missing out in Europe, but
perhaps we weren't quite ready.

"I'm not making any promises
for next season except to say
we'll be a good team, and I hope
I'm part of it."





MEXICO TOUR '85

I'll be quite honest. Unless my current form improves it would not surprise me if the England manager Bobby Robson dropped me from the team.

My form has not reached the high standards I set myself and those the England boss demands if we are to stand a chance of winning the World Cup next year.

I didn't play well against Finland, nor against Scotland. And that's not good enough.

Mind you, I feel a bit like a battery hen as I send you this report from England's luxury hotel in Mexico City.

Dr Vernon Edwards, the England doctor, has checked my pulse, my heart, my blood and my general physical condition on many occasions since we arrived in the country that hosts next year's World Cup Finals.

I'm pleased to report that Bryan Robson has passed his MoT as England face two games in four days against Mexico, on June 9, and West Germany, on June 12.

The reason for all this elaborate medical attention is that the entire England squad is being carefully monitored by Dr Edwards in preparation for our World Cup campaign next year.

Altitude

He wants to know how we react to Mexico's high altitude, which makes breathing difficult if you run flat out. It's no good me running around out here like I do at Old Trafford.

Don Howe, our coach, has warned me about the threat of sickness. Apparently he felt nausea badly when he played for England against Mexico out here in 1959.

I gently remind Don that that was the last time England lost to Mexico, so we go into Sunday's game against them with plenty of confidence, despite some miserable performances lately.

We will have to play a lot better here than we did in Finland and a few days later in Scotland.

A combination of slack defence and some brutal tackling by the Finns cost us a World Cup point in Helsinki, but we've learned some harsh lessons in the last few weeks.

What have we discovered? I've learned that Mark

Hateley still gets goals even when he is heavily marked, with little protection from referees.

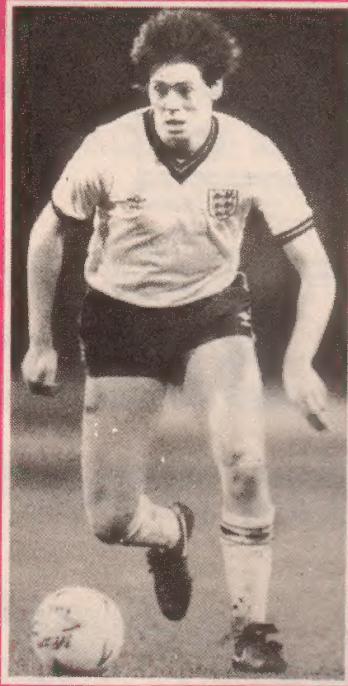
He took some stick after the Scotland game but to those questioning his ability, I'd like to remind them that we haven't always given Mark the support he deserves from midfield.

What else have I learned? I've been really impressed with Trevor Steven, the Everton marathon man. He's another Steve Coppell and has taken half the average time to adjust to England level.

I've discovered that Chris Waddle is even more slippery than I thought. The Spurs fans are in for a real treat from what I've seen of his ball skills in his short bursts of activity for England.

He did more in 15 minutes against Finland than I managed in the entire match.

Pressure for England places is so hot that I wouldn't want to put money on our line-up for



Chris Waddle (left) did more against Finland in 15 minutes than I managed throughout the entire game.

next year's World Cup Finals — or Sunday's game against Mexico and the West Germany game next Wednesday.

With Waddle, Gary Lineker (so sharp in training), and Kerry Dixon (he can't learn enough about the England set-up) fighting for a break, Mark, Trevor Francis and John Barnes have got to maintain top form.

Barnsey has disappointed me a bit. He's faded after that brilliant solo goal against Brazil a year ago but the lad is only 21 and has time to improve.

I'm confident we can do well against Mexico and the old enemy West Germany, despite the problems high altitude gives you.

Bryan Robson confesses

I face the axe

VOLLER!

Bobby Robson has not forgotten to remind us on the eve of the Mexico game that he scored one of eight England goals that sank the Mexicans at Wembley in 1961, writes Bryan Robson.

Well done, boss. I can't see us winning by that margin out here but we won't let you down.

The last time England played Mexico out here we struggled to force a 0-0 draw in the Aztec Stadium. That was in 1969.

The second game of our 'getting-to-know-you' tour is against our old foe West Germany.

They've won all five of their Group Two qualifying games, beating Malta twice, Sweden, Portugal and Czechoslovakia 5-1 away.

Franz Beckenbauer's team is full of skill, explosive pace and goals.

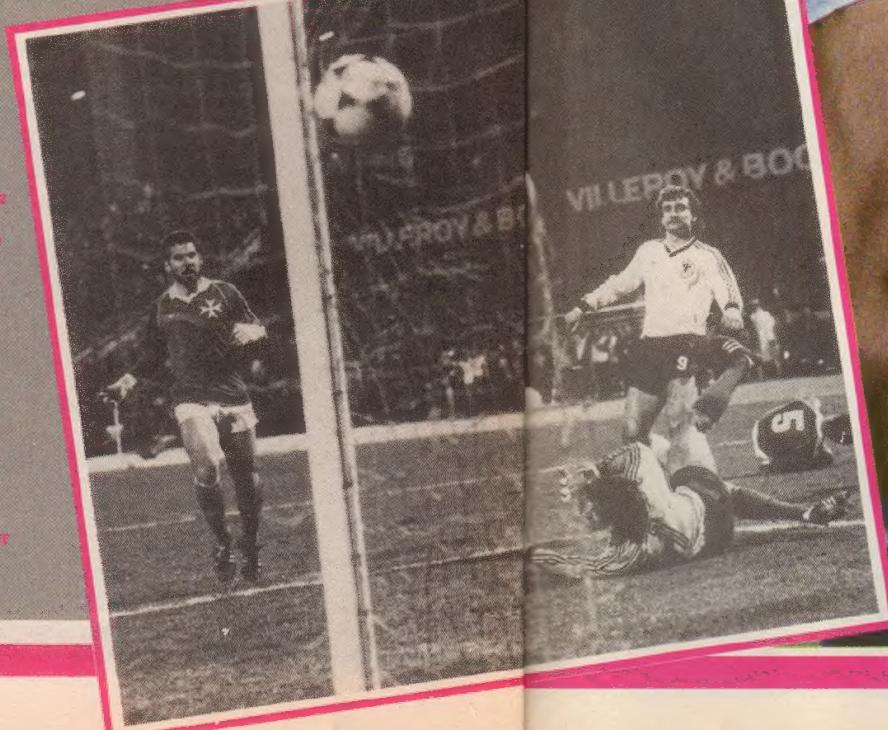
I can't think there are too many better twin strikers than Karl Heinz Rummenigge and Rudi Völler, the Werner Breitenbundt striker.

Their midfield has strength, supplied by the stocky Hamburg player Felix Magath, and highly tuned playmaking skills from Lothar Matthäus.

Cologne's Pierre Littbarski, superbly skilled on the ball, poses another threat but like us all he will have to do his running in short bursts.

The German defence is not impregnable. They have conceded four goals in their five World Cup matches, even though Cologne's goalkeeper Toni Schumacher cannot be far behind Peter Shilton in ability.

Both the Mexican and German games will be close affairs.



LEFT: Rudi Völler (in shirt) tests the German defence. MARCH.



Chris Waddle (left) did more against Finland in 15 minutes than I managed throughout the entire game.

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face axe



LEFT: Rudi Völler (white shirt) tests the Maltese defence during West Germany's 6-0 win in March.



ENGLAND'S RECORD

v MEXICO

May	1959	Mexico	1-2
May	1961	Wembley	8-0
July	1966	WC	2-0
June	1969	Mexico	0-0

v WEST GERMANY

May	1930	Berlin	3-3
Dec	1935	Tottenham	3-0
May	1938	Berlin	6-3
Dec	1954	Wembley	3-1
May	1956	Berlin	3-1
May	1965	Nuremberg	1-0
Feb	1966	Wembley	1-0
July	1966	WC	4-2
June	1968	Hanover	0-1
June	1970	WC	2-3
Apr	1972	EC	Wembley
May	1972	EC	0-0
Mar	1975	Wembley	2-0
Feb	1978	Munich	1-2
June	1982	WC	Madrid
Oct	1982	Wembley	0-0

GOUGH UP- for Scotland's CUP

Jock Stein's makeshift Scotland team became the first winners of the Rous Cup thanks to a 70th minute goal from defender Richard Gough. For disappointing England, it was the end of an eight-game unbeaten run. But for 70,000 fans at Hampden Park, it was the perfect tonic following successive World Cup defeats by Spain and Wales.

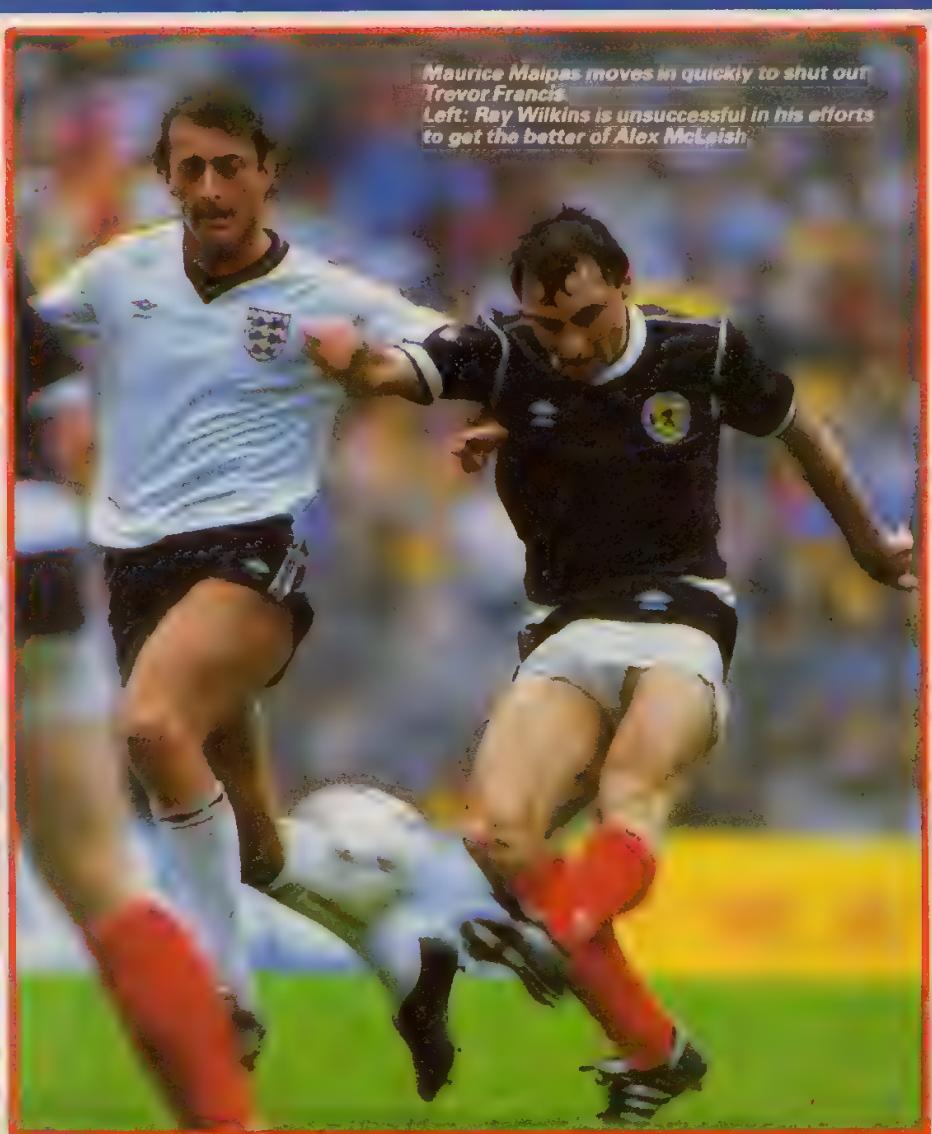
Heads I win. Gough outjumps Kenny Sansom to head home Jim Bett's cross.

Willie Miller triumphs as Kenny Sansom tries to haul England back into the game.



UP- for Scotland's CUP

England's makeshift Scotland team were the first winners of the Rous Cup. It was the end of an eight-game run. But for 70,000 fans at Wembley Park, it was the perfect tonic following successive World Cup defeats by Scotland and Wales.



Victorious Scotland display the Rous Cup, to be awarded to the winners of this epic annual battle.

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MAGIC EMEKA



MAGIC MEKA



WITH a university degree in one hand and the attention of the football world gripped tightly in the other, Emeka Nwajiobi admits: "I cannot wait for next season to begin."

The 25 year-old Nigerian striker darted, dribbled and dazzled his way through 26 League and Cup games for Luton Town last season, scored 10 goals that helped keep them in the First Division and tottered into the close-season feeling: "Shattered but elated."

Hardly surprising! Nwajiobi didn't play League football until he was 24, turning down a series of offers earlier in his career because of his determination to succeed at university.

"I played a few games for Millwall reserves when I was 17 and they were interested. But I opted out of football to attend the University of Wales."

During his stay he toured the United States with a universities team and was invited to join Tampa Bay Rowdies. "The same priority applied — I had a degree to get and I was determined."

That determination paid off — Nwajiobi emerged with a pharmacy degree and decided to play amateur football with Dulwich Hamlet while working as a chemist.

Luton manager David Pleat succeeded where others had failed, however, when he persuaded Nwajiobi to join Luton in December, 1983.

"I made my League debut against Forest in January, 1984," he says: "but despite scoring one goal and laying on the other for Paul Walsh, I came off disappointed because we lost 3-2."

But the fans perked up when they saw Nwajiobi's magical pace and ability to produce the totally unexpected.

'Unpredictable'

Superb goals followed, some gracing televised matches. But for all his natural talents, Nwajiobi can still swing his manager's emotions from: "Joy to exasperation. He is completely unpredictable, but on the other hand defenders suffer more than me!"

Nwajiobi was born in Anambra, Nigeria and came to England with his three brothers and five sisters in 1970. This makes him eligible to play for Nigeria or England.

"I've been asked which I would prefer if the situation ever arose but I prefer to make the grade first," he says. But he has asked Pleat to put his name down with the Nigerian F.A.

The disappointment of seeing an F.A. Cup Final place snatched from Luton minutes from the end of their Semi-Final with Everton was more than erased by The Hatters' run-in.

"I was very proud to have played a small part in keeping Luton in the First Division. I believe the team plays attractive football and stayed up because of the manager's philosophy.

"Next season I will be able to call upon the experience I have gained and the lessons I have learned. One thing is for certain — I have loved every single moment of my new career and I hope to have a few surprises for defenders." ■

Nwajiobi bursts through during Luton's crucial 2-1 win against Manchester United.
INSET: Derek Mountfield's late winner robbed Luton of an F.A. Cup Final place.



FOOTBALL FUNNIES

"Calling the ref a naughty name is one thing — but stamping his whistle into the mud and telling him to blow it is right out of order..."



"The Forest train is due — let's send them the wrong way."

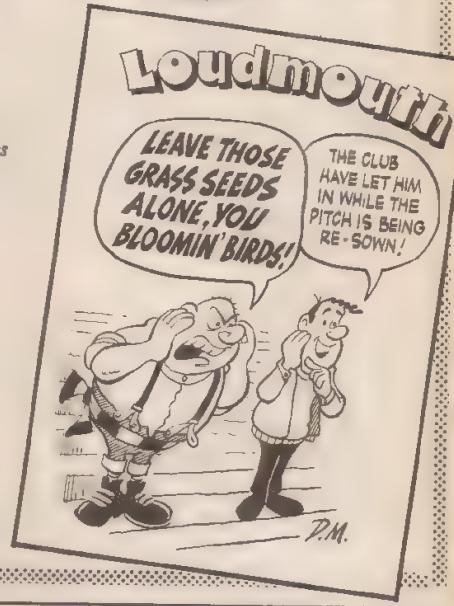
"I've got my dates mixed — I'm supposed to be at Anfield."



"Says he wants to practise his flying tackle."



"Every time they miss a goal he gives the telly a kick."



Loudmouth

LEAVE THOSE GRASS SEEDS ALONE, YOU BLOOMIN' BIRDS!

THE CLUB HAVE LET HIM IN WHILE THE PITCH IS BEING RE-SOWN!

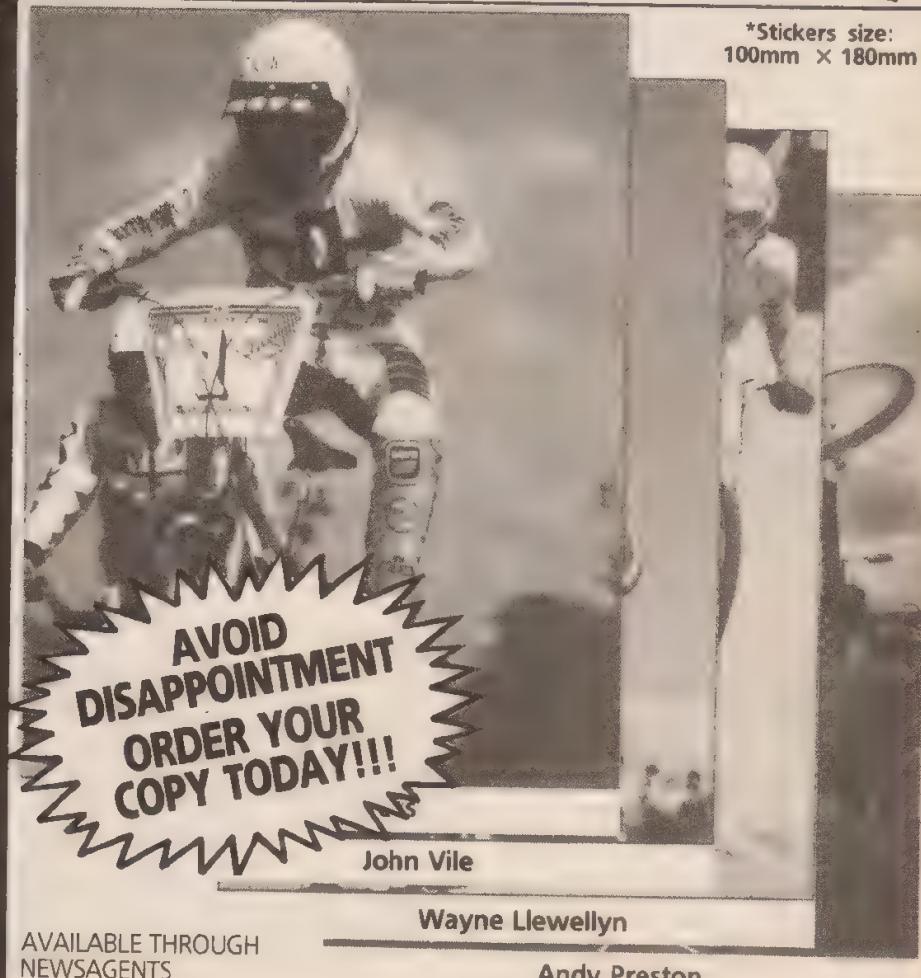


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ONLY days after scoring most important goal of life, Celtic's Scottish Cup winner Frank McGarvey was...

"Devastated and shattered!"

For the man who scored the win against Dundee United was told he leave when talks about a new contract with Celtic manager David Hay break down.

"I have gone from heaven to hell in space of four days," says shocked McGarvey.

"I was prepared to finish my career at Parkhead. But their offer of a 12-month contract was nothing short of an insult."

"It's obvious they don't want me."

FEARLESS FRAN

The S of n

not daft. The offer was dreadful. If they want to get rid of me then I'll have to...

"I hope another club comes along quickly but, if not, I'll be better signing month-by-month contract with Celtic."

"The timing of this staggers me. Even now I find it difficult to take it all in."

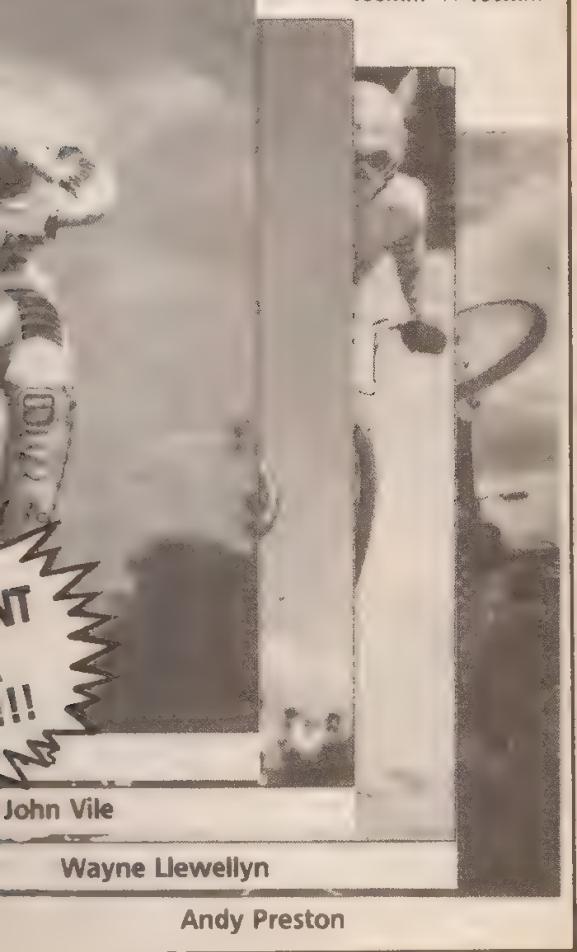
Whatever the future, McGarvey will never forget the goal that eventually sent Dundee United 2-1 in the 100th Scottish Cup Final.

"With 15 minutes to go we were losing 1-0 and I thought we were dead and





*Stickers size:
100mm x 180mm



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FEARLESS FRANK A HAMPDEN HERO. THEN

The shock of my life

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"I hope another club comes along quickly but, if not, I'll be better signing a month-by-month contract with Celtic.

"The timing of this staggers me. Even now I find it difficult to take it all in."

Whatever the future, McGarvey will never forget the goal that eventually beat Dundee United 2-1 in the 100th Scottish Cup Final.

"With 15 minutes to go we were losing 1-0 and I thought we were dead and

buried," admits the fearless striker.

"In fact, when I saw Brian McClair warming up I thought I was going to be substituted. But it was Tommy Burns who was pulled off and I was delighted to get that late winner."

"All credit to Roy Aitken who made the goal with a brilliant run down the right. Roy crossed perfectly and I got my head to it. For one horrible moment I thought the ball was going to hit the post. But when it beat Hamish McAlpine I felt like crying with joy."

"Overall it hasn't been a bad season for me. When I scored a hat-trick against St.

Mirren in the League earlier in the season I became the first player in the Premier Division's history to score 100 goals.

"But none will be better than that one against Dundee United. It will live with me forever."

The flying header from McGarvey gave David Hay his first trophy victory as a manager at Parkhead. It also gave Celtic their first Cup win since they beat Rangers 2-1 in the League Cup Final in November, 1983.

But they could still start next season without striker Frank McGarvey, their Hampden Park Hero.

FORGET IT!

Roy Aitken knew exactly how Manchester United defender Kevin Moran felt when he was sent-off in the F.A. Cup Final at Wembley.

The same fate befell Aitken last year when he was dismissed during the first-half of Celtic's Scottish Cup Final defeat by Aberdeen at Hampden.

Here is Roy's advice to Kevin:

"I felt hard done by, and no doubt Kevin, you feel the same way."

But I'm sure you are a good enough professional to shrug it off. You know you must get on with your career and push such problems aside.

Obviously there is no point in dwelling upon it, no matter how harsh it may seem.

If anything, it can spur you on. I felt I had let down the side last season when

we lost in extra-time to Aberdeen.

That's why I was so determined to do well this season and I was delighted to win the Man of the Match award in our 2-1 triumph over Dundee United. Kevin, you can do the same!

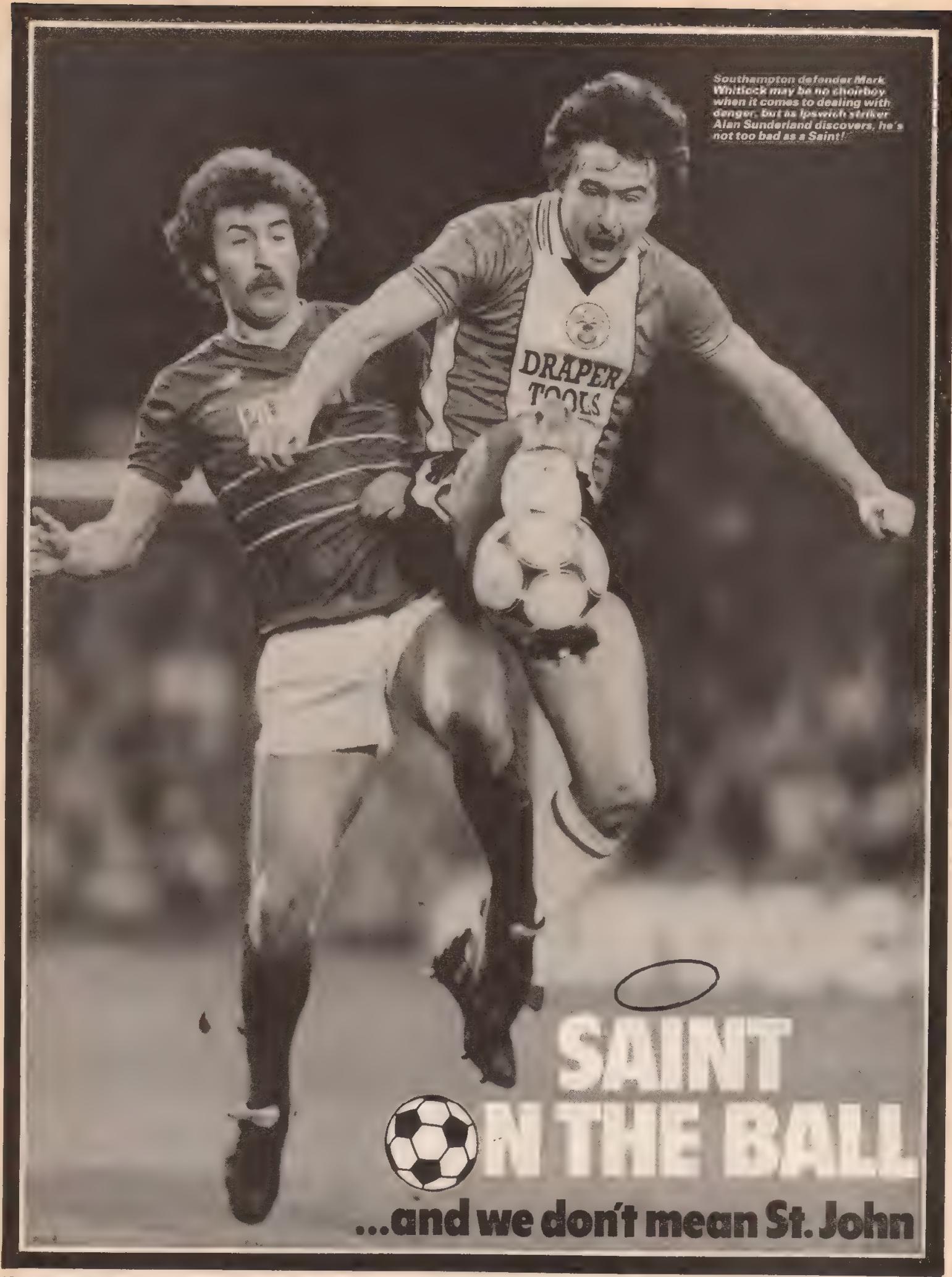
By the way, there was no problem when it came to receiving my medal, even if it was just as a runner-up.

There are no rules in the SFA to indicate a player who has been sent-off in a Cup Final shouldn't receive his medal.

I was the first player to be sent-off in a Scottish Cup Final in 55 years and that's something I will have to live with.

Kevin, you must do the same — forget it!





Southampton defender Mark Whitlock may be no choirboy when it comes to dealing with danger, but as Ipswich's striker Alan Sunderland discovers, he's not too bad as a Saint!

TARGET MARK

A small hit in the Fins

OXFORD manager Jim Smith made some marvellous signings for United, but none better than John Aldridge, who was bought from County in March, 1984. With 65 goals in 170 games for the Welsh club, Aldridge arrived with a pedigree.

He responded with 34 League goals in 50 games during a season Oxford became the first side to win both First and Second Divisions in successive seasons.

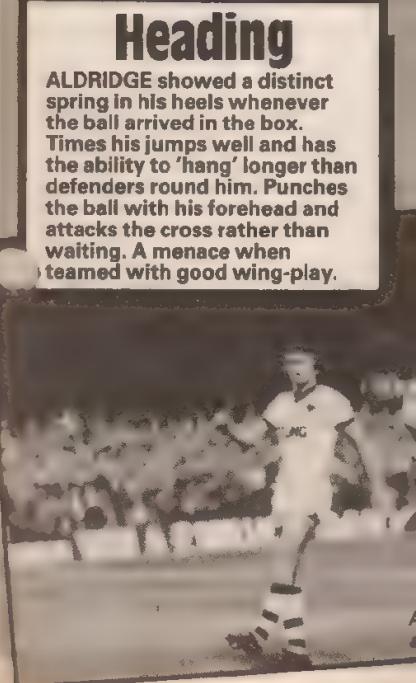
Now the question is — can Alan in the First Division? SHOOT P Liverpool-born Ian Rush look microscope to find the answer.

Overall Performance

ALDRIDGE was yards faster mentally than he tormented for 90 minutes. Quick out in front of goal, he looked every inch a hero. Two first-half strikes ended the game, the Second Division title for Oxford. A goal-line clearance and the width of a four-goal flourish.

Heading

ALDRIDGE showed a distinct spring in his heels whenever the ball arrived in the box. Times his jumps well and has the ability to 'hang' longer than defenders round him. Punches the ball with his forehead and attacks the cross rather than waiting. A menace when teamed with good wing-play.



Southampton defender Mark Whitlock may be no choirboy when it comes to dealing with danger, but as Ipswich striker Alan Sunderland discovers, he's not too bad as a Saint!

TARGET MAN

spotlights JOHN ALDRIDGE, the Second Division's top scorer, and predicts he'll be...

Oxford United 4,
Barnsley 0
May 11th, 1985.

A smash hit in the First

OXFORD manager Jim Smith has made some marvellous signings for United, but none better than striker John Aldridge, who was bought from Newport County in March, 1984. With 69 League goals in 170 games for the Welsh club, Aldridge arrived with a pedigree.

He responded with 34 League and Cup goals in 50 games during a season in which Oxford became the first side to win the Third and Second Divisions in succession.

Now the question is — can Aldridge perform in the First Division? SHOOT put the Liverpool-born Ian Rush look-alike under the microscope to find the answer.

Overall Performance

ALDRIDGE was yards faster mentally than the Barnsley defence he tormented for 90 minutes. Quick off the mark, brave and cool in front of goal, he looked every inch a natural-born goalscorer. Two first-half strikes ended the game as a contest and clinched the Second Division title for Oxford. And only a desperate goal-line clearance and the width of a post denied him a four-goal flourish.

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Distribution

SAFE and simple! He makes intelligent runs and an ideal target for his team-mates. On the ball he is as likely to go for goal as he is to pass it elsewhere. On the occasions he did provide passes he kept them short, accurate and played them early.



Aldridge gets in a powerful header against Wolves last season.

Skill

EXCELS at taking the ball over his shoulder while running for goal. Took some fast through passes from John Trewick and David Langan in his stride, controlling the ball with the outside of his foot without checking his stride.

Tackling

DIDN'T make one tackle of note in 90 minutes, though he rode quite a few. Closed down defenders without getting in on them to challenge for the ball. Looked as if he might lunge in on the edge of his own box late in the game, but thought better of it and moved up field to seek an opening instead.

Temperament

BASICALLY calm and composed, he looked back in anger at one or two clattering challenges from some frightened Barnsley defenders, but apart from a reaction-type moan at the oblivious referee, got on with his game.

Shooting

BOTH goals were shots — a brilliant curling, placed-to-perfection left foot effort in the opening minutes into the top corner and a right foot prod to finish a clever through ball from Jeremy Charles that caught Barnsley square. Other shots revealed a positive approach — Aldridge is not afraid to miss therefore never afraid to shoot.

Verdict

JOHN ALDRIDGE is a quality finisher with the skill, nerve and courage to plunder goals in the First Division. With the right service from the wings and a Billy Hamilton or Jeremy Charles alongside him up front, Aldridge will become a smash hit next season.

UNIT THE BALL
It means St. John

THE one bright spot at Roker Park for relegated Sunderland in a disastrous season was the form of Barry Venison.

The England Under-21 international skippered the team in the Milk Cup Final in the absence of suspended Shaun Elliott and was named as the Evening Chronicle-Hennessy Cognac Player of the Month in April.

And Venison's success in a harrowing season for the North-East club has not only been gained on the pitch. He has developed not only as a player but also as a person.

Officially Sunderland's vice captain, Barry's duties as captain on a dozen occasions in addition to Wembley have brought him increased maturity.

"The pressure there was on us but didn't get to me," he says. "It's an honour to captain the side and so far as the relegation battle was concerned I never got uptight about it."

"After all, it wasn't something we had to live with through the entire season. We were clear of trouble for most of the time."

Barry didn't deserve The Drop!

But when trouble struck for Sunderland, they were unable to avoid the drop into Division Two.

"The bottom fell out of our world following a super result over Spurs," says Barry. "After that, there was so much that went wrong with us — since then, we seem to have been sliding down a mountain."

"There were times when we weren't battling as hard as we did earlier in the campaign, although we didn't play badly in all our matches. We just gradually went off the boil."

"Following our Milk Cup win at White Hart Lane in December I was shocked when we later found ourselves engaged in another relegation struggle. It was one thing I never even considered when the season started."

"I think everybody at the club fixed their sights on Europe, and I was no exception. I believed we were set for our best spell in years."



Top-Down Duffy — SCOTLAND'S FINEST!

MORTON made unenviable history last season when they became the first team to concede 100 goals in the Scottish Premier Division.

Yet their sweeper, Jim Duffy, was voted Scotland's Player of the Year by his fellow professionals!



"You could say I got plenty of practice throughout the season," jokes the overworked defender, who looks likely to stay in the "Top Ten" despite his side's relegation.

Hibernian and Dundee both want him and Duffy says: "Obviously I don't want to play in the First Division. I think I've proved my capabilities in the Premier."

"It was nice to receive so much praise throughout the media and, of course, I was delighted to win the Player of the Year award."

"I thought it might go to Dundee United goalkeeper Hamish McAlpine, who won the Football Writers' version of the trophy. I was runner-up in that award, so it's nice to know my efforts were appreciated even if it was hardly a memorable season for my club."

Competitive

"We were a part-time team trying to compete in a very competitive League and I think our set-up was wrong. You have to be full-time in the Premier, there's no other way."

"I have a part-time job pulling pints in a Glasgow pub and before a midweek League match against Celtic at Parkhead during the season I was working until about two hours before the kick-off!"

Duffy, incidentally, made his debut for former club Celtic on the same night a certain Charlie Nicholas was also introduced.

"It was a midweek Glasgow Cup-tie against Clyde at Parkhead and we won 3-0," recalls Jim. "And, before you ask, Charlie Nicholas did get a goal."

Surprisingly, Duffy was allowed to leave Parkhead where he was snapped up by former Morton boss Benny Rooney.

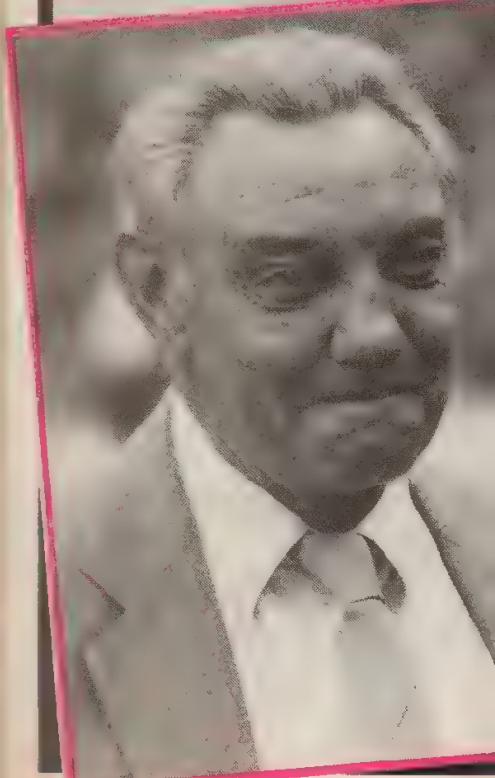
"I was sad to leave Celtic, but my career really took off at Cappielow," says 25-year-old Duffy. "They gave me the opportunity to show I wasn't on the scrapheap and I'll always be grateful to them."

DEVA

Zbigniew Boniek celebrates the controversial penalty award.



"I'm still shattered, absolutely devastated — by the awful tragedy that turned a dream occasion into a nightmare that has so savagely shamed our reputation in Europe, and by two appalling refereeing decisions that cost us the European Cup."



Jim-Dowman Duffy — OTRAN'S FINEST!

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DEVASTATED!

Zbigniew Boniek celebrates the
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so savagely shamed our reputation
in Europe, and by two appalling
refereeing decisions that cost us
the European Cup.

The repercussions of the terrace
violence that cost so many innocent
lives will vibrate through our game all
summer.

We just sat there down in the
dressing-room, waiting and wondering
what was happening.

We waited 80 minutes, during which
Phil Neal made his impassioned public
plea for sanity. But we did not know
how shocking things were.

was inside the box when he was
chopped down, yet Mr Daino gave
them a throw-in.

Add a brilliant display by goalkeeper
Tacconi and the loss of Mark
Lawrenson in the third minute and Paul
Walsh at half-time and I reckon you've
got a fair description of a luckless
evening on the field.

I should have known things were on
the down when my new boss Kenny

Star Writer — IAN RUSH

I sensed the atmosphere when we
finally came out, but we had decided
that the right thing to do was to play.

Were it not for the terrible scenes off
the pitch that came before the game I'd
say we endured an experience in
daylight robbery.

It's not a matter of opinion, but a
matter of fact that Boniek was outside
the penalty-area when fouled — yet the
referee gave a penalty.

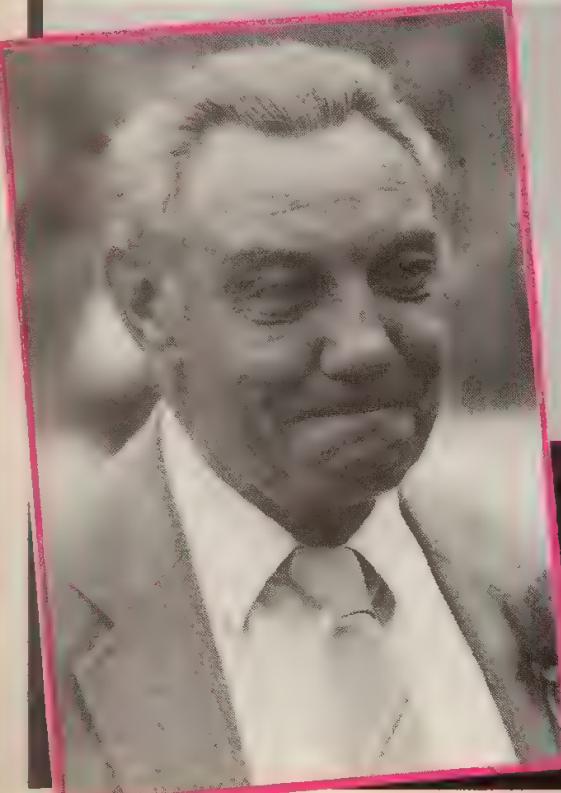
It is also a fact that Ronnie Whelan

Dalglish broke a bone in my right hand
with a cracking volley during training.

It's difficult to talk about football,
however, because most of us feel
numb.

Next week I may be in a better frame
of mind to talk about the end of an
exciting era for Liverpool and the
departure of Joe Fagan.

Ian Rush

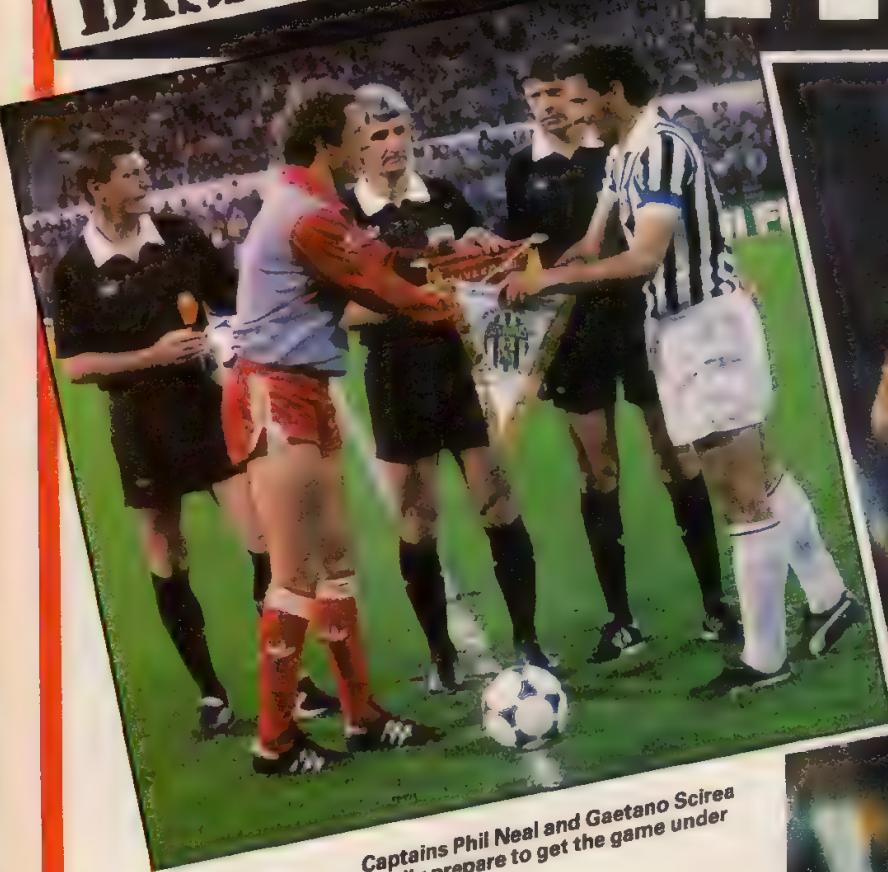


Heart-broken Joe Fagan

LIVERPOOL manager Joe Fagan, who announced his retirement
hours before the European Cup Final, was heart-broken after it.
"I'm at a loss to understand people who could behave in such a way.
To us it is a game of football. But not to these people.
"I'm terribly sad, not because we lost — that is secondary. No, I am
sad because of the tragedy that overwhelmed everyone.
"What a terribly sad way to finish my career."

EUROPEAN CUP FINAL DISASTER

The Final Tragedy



Captains Phil Neal and Gaetano Scirea finally prepare to get the game under way.

Juventus beat Liverpool 1-0 to win the 30th European Cup Final in Brussels. The game was decided by a Michel Platini penalty in the second-half.

Neither the Italian club's success in winning the trophy for the first time nor Liverpool's first defeat in five European Cup Final appearances in eight years, matter to anyone.

Wednesday, 29th May, 1985 will be remembered only as the day that football, as we knew it, finally died of shame.

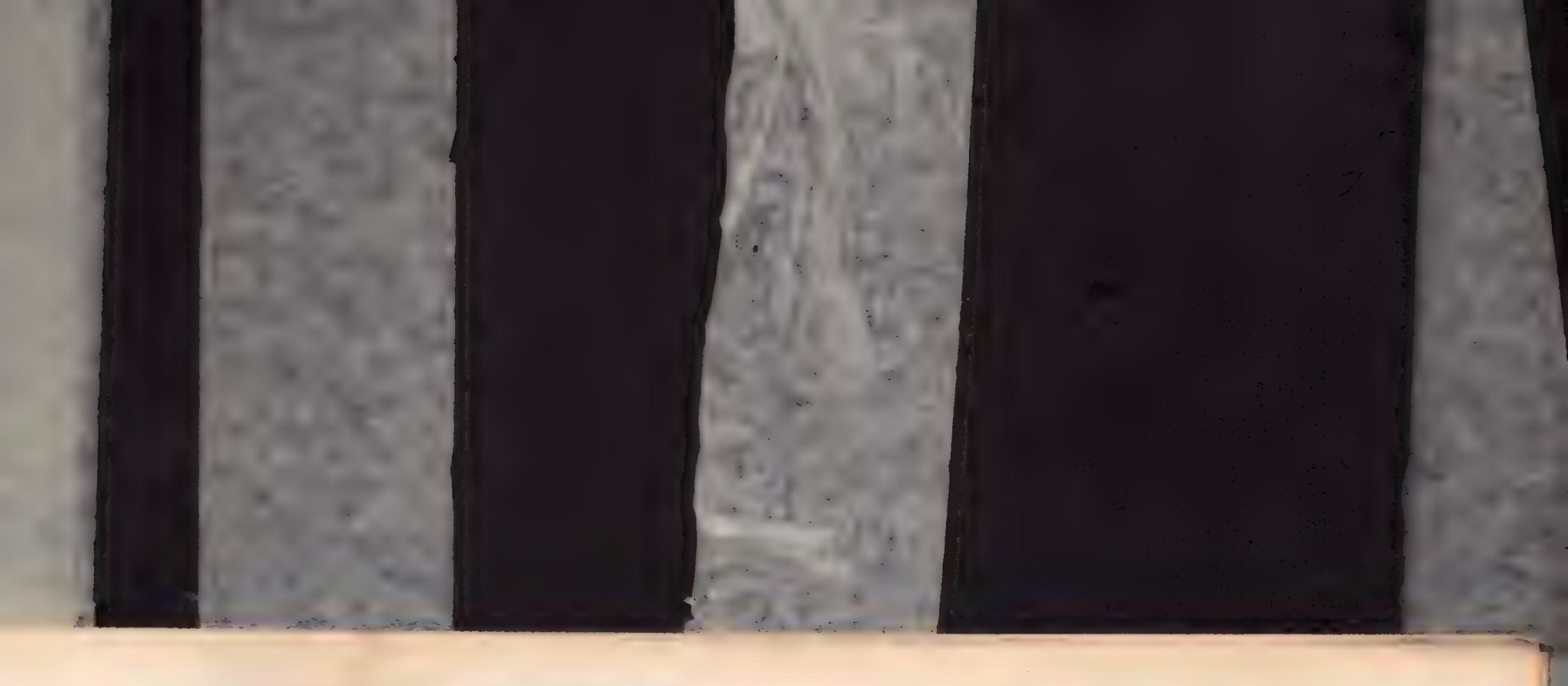
Maybe tomorrow, or next week, or next year the football powers will find an answer to the hooligan menace that is killing our national game.

But whatever happens in the future the Brussels bloodbath was the final chapter to the darkest passage in sporting history.

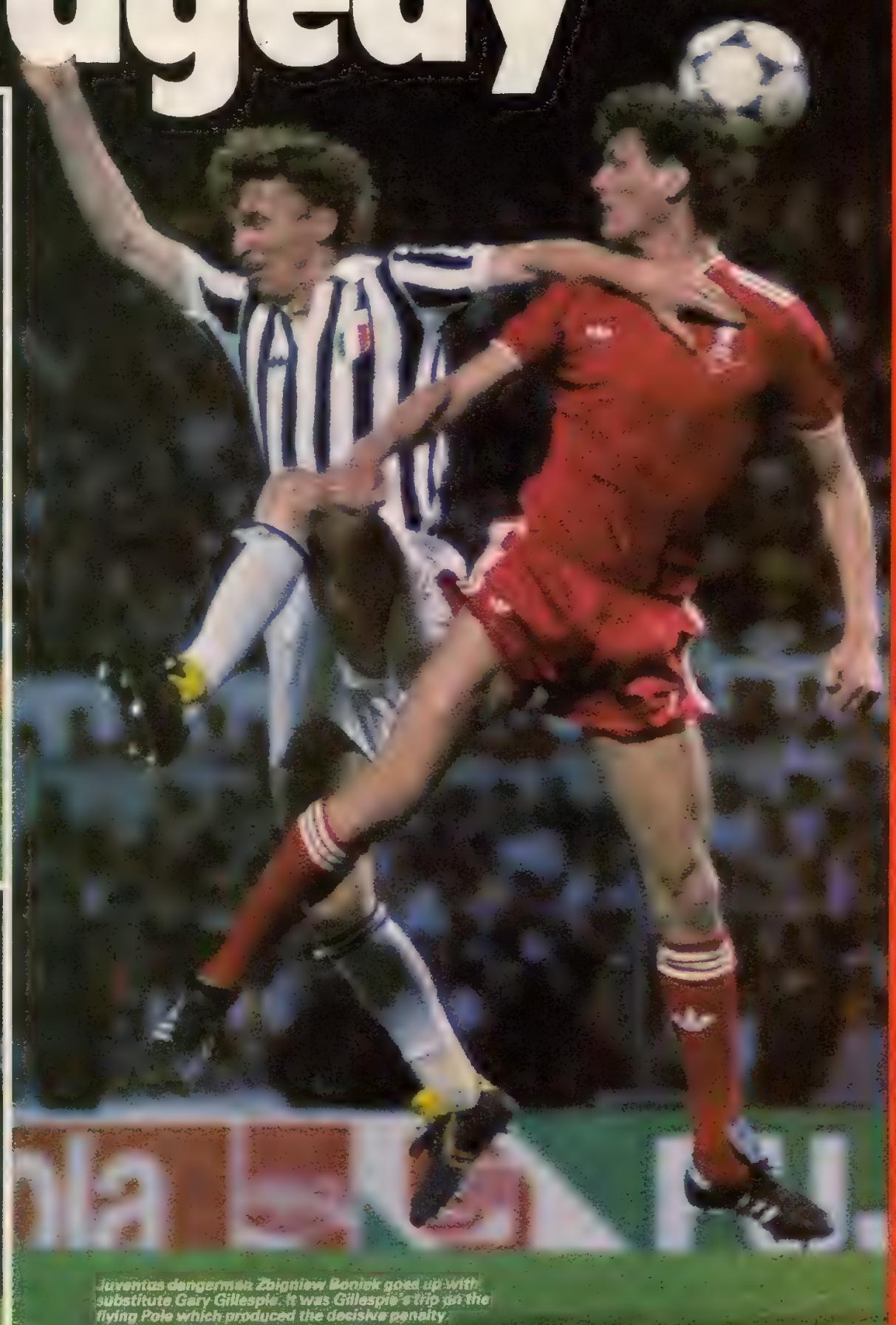
And the Heysel Stadium, Brussels will remain a permanent memorial to that macabre moment.

Michel Platini sends Bruce Grobbelaar the wrong way to clinch the European Cup for Juventus.





Final Tragedy

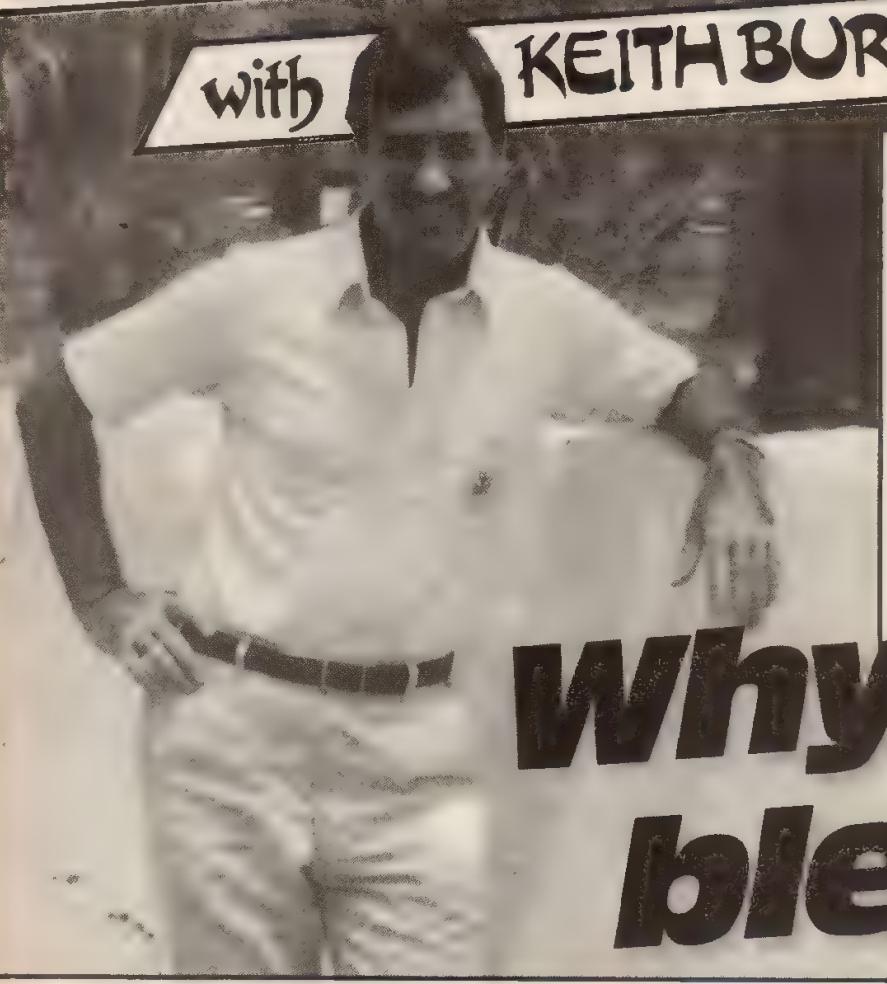


Juventus dangerman Zbigniew Boniek goes up with substitute Gary Gillespie. It was Gillespie's trip on the flying Pole which produced the decisive penalty.

SPECIAL REPORT

with

KEITH BURKINSHAW in Bahrain



Why SPURS blew it!



When I was at White Hart Lane, I felt the players had a mental block about winning the title. They were happy in Cup games but didn't have the will to win over 42 games in the First Division.

It looked as though they'd got over that earlier this season but losing six out of seven home games was ridiculous. On that basis, they weren't entitled to win the League.

Peter Shreeves has got the same problem that I had in that he likes to see the "performers" in the side.

But when you've got too many in the same team, you're not going to win games week in, week out. When you look at the Spurs side now, they've got three or four players who epitomise the qualities needed to win the League, and three or four who don't!

Missed out

People will immediately think of Glenn Hoddle in that second category, but he's not the only one, though Hoddle has missed out on becoming an international star.

He's got the skill to be a world class player, but you need the application as well. All the game's great players have also been terrific workhorses. Glenn probably had his best period in the Second Division.

"I feel sorry for Peter Shreeves because at Spurs, you've got to field the star players — everyone connected with the



'Hoddle must work harder'

KEITH Burkinshaw, the former Spurs manager currently guiding Bahrain's World Cup fortunes out in the Arab Emirates, was disappointed but not surprised when the North London team's First Division title challenge blew out.

Burkinshaw, who won a mountain of honours for Spurs without ever clinching the Championship, is saddened by the club's inability to put right their one glaring weakness.

I spoke to him in between Bahrain training sessions and found he'd lost none of his gritty Yorkshire bluntness.

Why SPURS blew it!

club demands it.

"I would like to think it's possible to marry the Spurs style with that of Liverpool's. In other words, improving Tottenham's work rate but keeping enough of the flowing football to win the League. I think it's possible, but the combination of the side at the moment isn't right.

On a personal front, I am almost certain to come back to England when my contract with Bahrain is up next year.

"I've been offered seven or eight jobs in England since coming here but I believe that once you've signed a contract, you should honour it.

Similar job

I was offered a job at a top club before I came here. But I thought that being a similar job to Spurs, I might be unfairly comparing the players and it would be best to get away to something completely different.

When I finish here, it might be interesting to take over a small club in England. But I wouldn't be too bothered if I went back and there wasn't a job for me.

I know that sounds amazing when I'm in my 50th year. But I really haven't planned what I'll do after I finish the job here.

Of course, if I want to work in England again, it's best to go back after two or three years. Otherwise, people tend to forget you.



WORLD NEWS FROM TONY ROCHE



Vee Haff Vays...

BUNDESLIGA clubs seem merciless in the four German clubs have sacked their managers in the last few months.

Borussia Dortmund have axed Timo Konietzny. Werder Bremen, Eintracht Braunschweig have sacked Alexander Ristic and Fortuna Dusseldorf bade to Willibert Kremer.



SHAW in Bahrain

H. Burkinshaw, the former manager currently guiding the World Cup fortunes out in the Emirates, was disappointed when the North London First Division title challenge went out.

Burkinshaw, who won a mountain of for Spurs without ever clinching the Championship, is saddened by the club's inability to put right their main weakness. He came to him in between Bahrain sessions and found he'd lost his gritty Yorkshire bluntness.

Spurs v it!

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SHAW ZONE

WORLD NEWS FROM TONY ROCHE

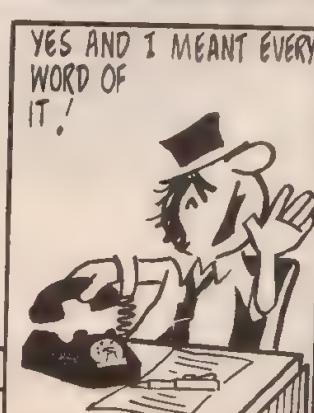


Vee Haff Vays....!

BUDESLIGA clubs seem merciless in their quest to be best and four German clubs have sacked their manager-coaches in the past few months.

Borussia Dortmund have axed Timo Konietzka, Karlsruhe fired Werber Olk, Eintracht Braunschweig have shown the door to Alexander Ristic and Fortuna Dusseldorf bade a far from fond farewell to Willibert Kremer.

NOBBY



BIG DEALS

INTER Milan have persuaded their 29-year-old World Cup striker Alessandro Altobelli (right) to renew his contract for another three years.

And in Belgium, Champions Anderlecht finished celebrating their record triumph and started celebrating all over again after convincing Frank Vercauteren and Erwin Vandenberghe to stay on for another two years and five years respectively.

JUNIOR TARGET OF HATE

JUNIOR, the brilliant Brazilian World Cup defender, believes he is being driven out of Italy!

Despite playing consistently well for Turin, Junior (left) is the victim of repeated racial insults.

"The Italians don't seem to like me," he says. "Every day I am insulted by people who call me a black pig. I find it difficult to understand."

Hardly surprising, then, that Junior is trying to organise a transfer home to a Brazilian club before next season.



Tresor's farewell

MARIUS Tresor makes his final appearance for France on July 14, in a special testimonial match arranged in his honour.

The Bordeaux defender, who holds 65 caps, will play the first 45 minutes for France and the second-half for his club side, who provide the opposition at what is a traditional French holiday.

Valencia go bust!

VALENCIA, one of the biggest names in Spanish football, are staring extinction in the face! Valencia now face debts of more than £7½ million!

With the directors struggling to pay off the interest and manager Roberto Gil throwing in the towel by walking out on the club, Valencia, who set Spain alight when they paraded Argentinian World Cup star Mario Kempes, are now a matter of weeks away from being forced to wind up!

MEMORY TEST

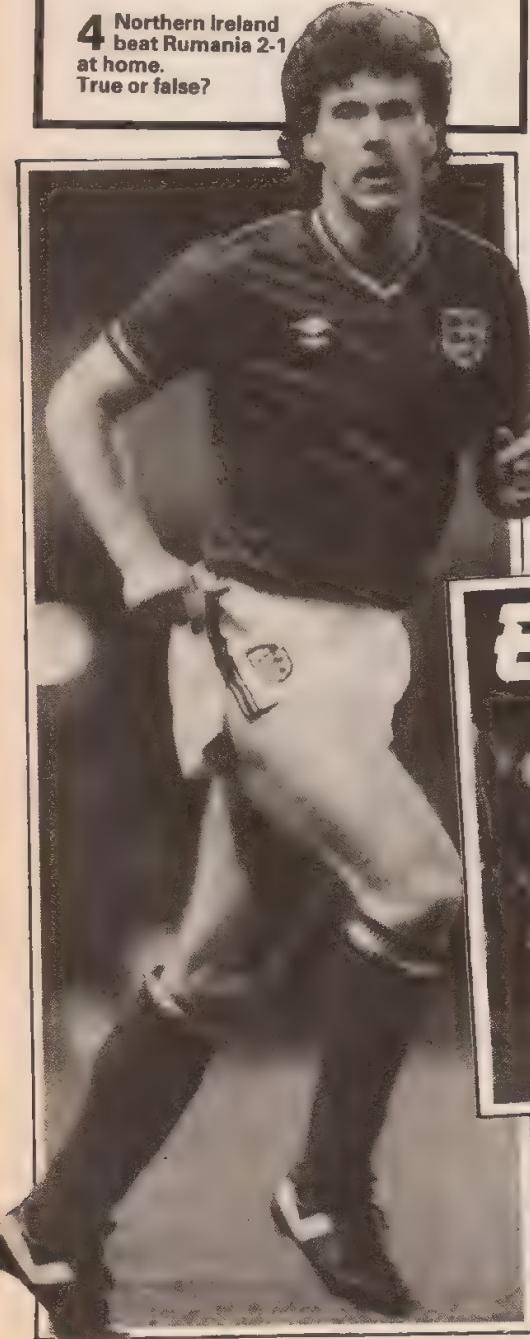
WORLD CUP

1 Did Bryan Robson, John Barnes or Tony Woodcock (below) score a hat-trick for England in their 8-0 thrashing of Turkey?

2 Scotland suffered a 1-0 home defeat by Wales. Who scored the Welsh winner in the first-half?

3 The Republic of Ireland are in which qualifying group?

4 Northern Ireland beat Rumania 2-1 at home. True or false?



MANAGERS

1 Name the manager who was sacked by his Fourth Division club, along with his assistant, and then reinstated a few days later.

2 Bobby Gould (above) was dismissed as boss of which club?

3 Who guided Millwall to promotion from the Third Division?

4 Rearrange the jumbled letters to find the name of a manager who guided his club to an honour in Scotland... ADDVYHA (LEICTC).

WINNER



EURO SCENE



1 Liverpool's European Cup Final appearance against Juventus was the fifth, sixth or seventh time they have reached that stage?

2 Which club represented Scotland in the European Cup?

3 Tottenham (above) and Manchester United were both eliminated from the UEFA Cup at the Quarter-Final stage. Their victors went on to appear in the Final. Name them.

4 Andy Gray and Kevin Sheedy scored two of Everton's three goals in their Cup-Winners' Cup Final victory against Rapid Vienna... who scored the other?

CHAMPIONS

Read the following clue and see if you can identify the player's signature.

A Welsh international who was voted Robinson's Barley Water Young Player of the Year.

SIGNED UP

Which seven clubs won their respective Championships in England and Scotland?

MEMORY TEST '84-'85

WINNER

What was so significant about this goal from a Republic of Ireland full-back in May?



CHAMPIONS

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SIGNED UP

Which seven clubs won their respective Championships in England and Scotland?

1 Sammy McIlroy, recently given a free by Stoke City, signed for which First Division club?

2 Who was involved in the biggest transfer?

3 Maurice Johnston was signed by Celtic from Watford in November. With which club did the Scotland international striker (above) begin his career?

4 Ian Snodin was transferred from the Third Division to the Second recently. Which two clubs were involved?

GOALS

1 Robbie Cooke of Brentford became the first man since Colin Garwood in 1979-80 to finish top scorer at two clubs in the same season. For which other club did he score six goals?

2 Did Chelsea's Kerry Dixon (below), John Wark of Liverpool or Leicester's Gary Lineker score hat-tricks in the League, F.A. Cup and Milk Cup competitions?

3 Lee Chapman of Sheffield Wednesday scored against his three previous clubs... name them.

4 Kevin Wilson and David Geddiss scored hat-tricks for two different clubs. Which teams were they playing for?

5 Terry Connor finished top scorer for which Second Division club?

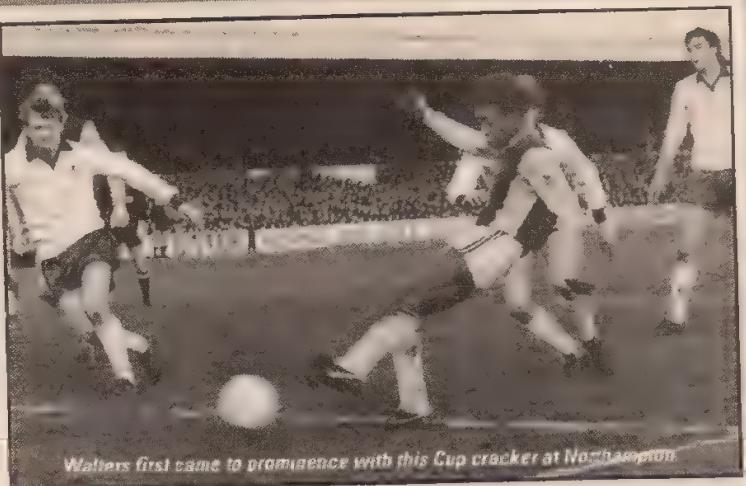


MARK Walters has just celebrated his 21st birthday. He's also just celebrated what has undoubtedly been the best season of his career so far.

"I won't go as far as to say I didn't want the season to end," says Mark, "because nine months of continual slogging in League and Cup football is enough to sap the strength of anyone."

"But I've certainly enjoyed my football, right up to the very last game of the season, and I really feel as if I've got my career underway again."

When he first burst on to the scene with a remarkable televised F.A. Cup goal against Northampton, it was widely predicted another star was born. But that was three seasons ago, and by his own



Walters first came to prominence with this Cup cracker at Northampton

admission, Mark Walters has faded from the limelight since then.

"It was scoring a goal which first put me in the picture, but it was my failure to score goals consistently after that which led to my decline," says Walters.

Recently in SHOOT team-mate Gordon Cowans said of Mark: "I've not seen any player with as much skill." But Walters insists while that's flattering to hear, as a striker

it's hitting the back of the net which makes the headlines.

"There are a lot of players around who might not be considered to have as much skill as me, but because they score goals regularly people talk about them a lot more.

"I was fortunate enough to start finding the net more often towards the end of the season, and consequently people have started to take note of me again.

"I have made a conscious effort to get into the box far more often. In the past I'd been content to do my stuff down the flanks, and then get the ball over for others to capitalise

TV STAR WALTERS SWITCHED ON AGAIN

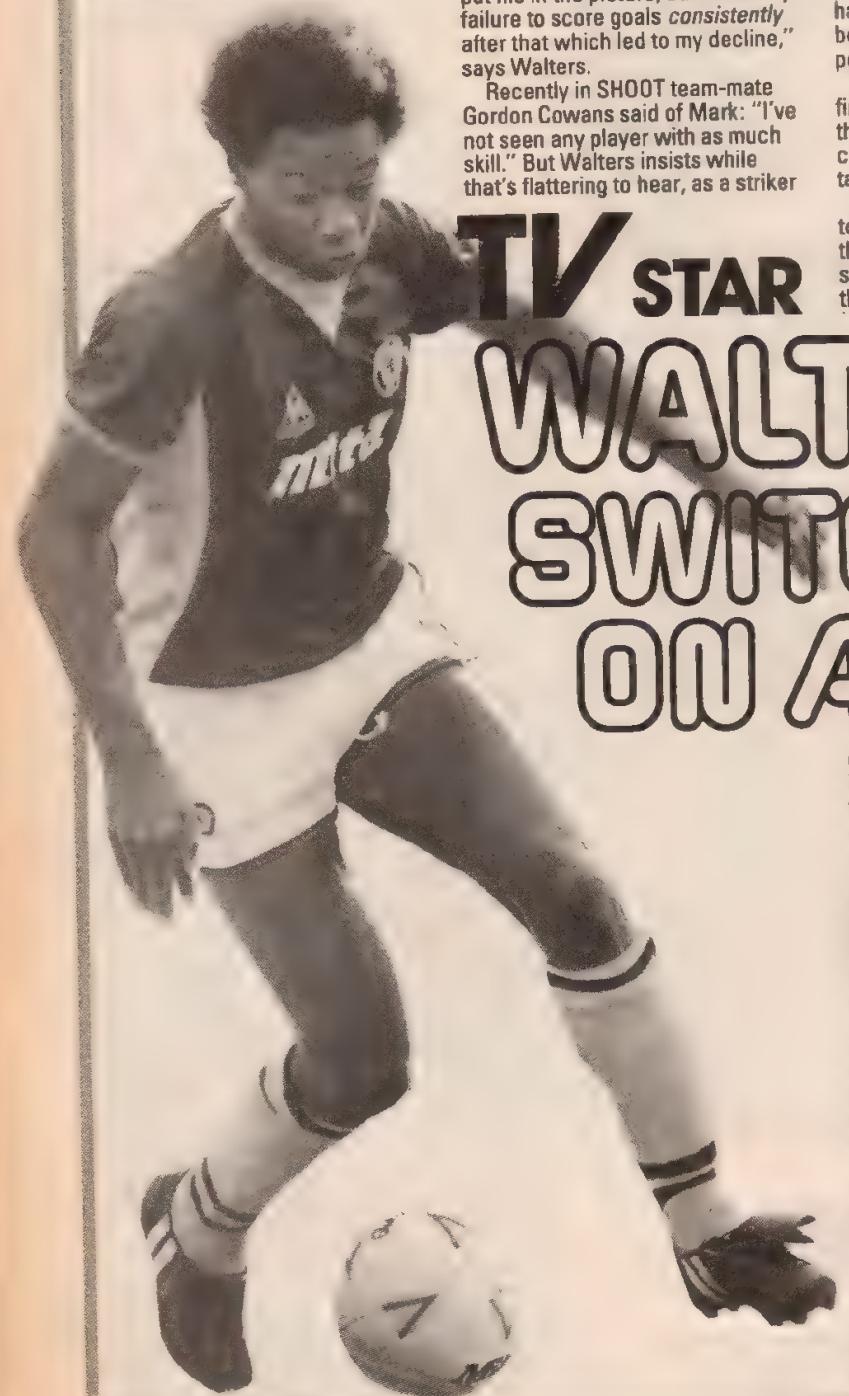
on. But I decided to get myself involved to a far greater extent in the penalty-area, and it certainly seems to have paid off."

When Mark was struggling to hold down a regular place in the Villa side, there was some speculation that he would be leaving Villa Park. But Walters says he hopes all that kind of talk is behind him now.

"I think the newspapers made more of it than there really was at the time," he says. "Obviously I was unhappy at being left out of the side but as a local lad my heart has always been at Villa Park."

"I have two more years of my present contract to run, and as long as the manager is happy with me, I'd very much like to stay here."

"After all our problems on and off the park, our results from Christmas were very good. With a couple of additions, I firmly believe we can become serious challengers for honours again next season."



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Scottish Express

BILLY Liddell, the ex-Liverpool Scottish Express, is still operating these days on the fast line. Living in the city where he became famous, the former star winger is constantly on the move.

Although he took early retirement from his job as assistant bursar at Liverpool University, the 63-year-old Liddell shows no signs of slowing down.

As a J.P. and attending three court sessions a week on average, Billy also finds time to attend to his duties as secretary of the Liverpool Supporters Club and is in great demand as a speaker at local functions.

Regular

And he retains close ties with Liverpool. Liddell is a regular at all the Anfield games, where he spends much of his time signing autographs for his faithful fans, young and old.

A devoted family man, Billy assists his wife, Phyllis, in frequently entertaining their four grand-children. When they are older, Billy has promised to coach them at tennis. He plays the game three times a week for a local club.

Then, once a week, Liddell joins forces with another famous Liverpudlian, Joe Mercer, and judges a Spot the Ball competition. And not surprisingly Billy looks as fit and trim as he did in his playing days.

A non-drinker and smoker, his hair still dark, Liddell in 1985 looks fit enough to indulge in his spectacular wing dashes of the 40's and 50's.

Salute to the Dons

ABERDEEN owed their second successive Scottish Championship to a faraway start, a grandstand finish and a helping hand from the weather in between!

The Dons led the Premier Division from start to finish — and even when Scotland was in the grip of the most severe winter for many years they marched relentlessly towards the title.

"That definitely helped us," reflects skipper Willie Miller. "We escaped a lot of the snow and frost up here in the North. It meant we were able to keep going and didn't suffer with postponements like the other clubs."

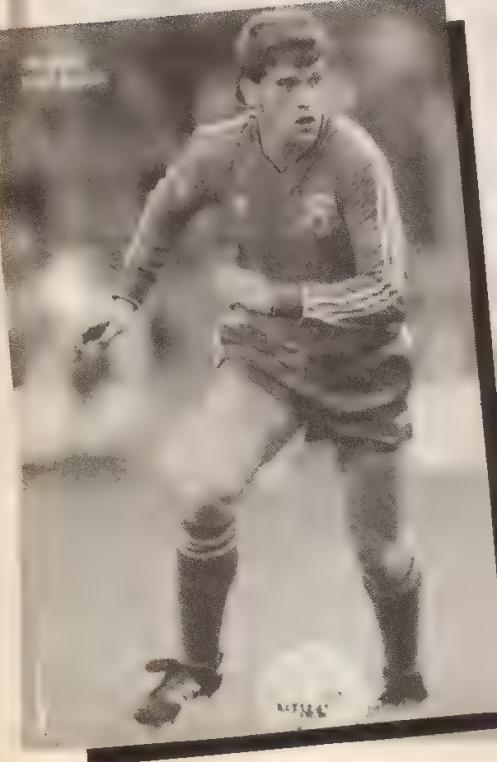
Miller insists: "The start we made to the 1984-85 campaign was without doubt our best ever. We have probably become better known for the way we finish than start, but last season we got off to a real flier and simply never looked back."

"It was never plain sailing, of course, because we always had Celtic in pursuit, but once we had our noses in front we were determined that no one was going to catch us."

Miller recently celebrated his 30th

All-conquering Aberdeen

EVEN JACK



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All-conquering Aberdeen

EVEN BEAT JACK FROST!



Salute to the Champions

Miller (no. 6) heads Aberdeen's equaliser against Celtic to clinch the Scottish Premier League Championship.



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HOW THEY WON THE TITLE	
Dundee	H 3-2 Stark, Hewitt, Black
St. Mirren	A 2-0 Stark, Falconer
Dundee United	A 2-0 Black (2)
Hibernian	H 4-1 Simpson, Black, McKimmie, McDougall
Morton	A 3-0 Stark, Black, Falconer
Rangers	H 0-0
Dumbarton	A 2-0 Miller, Falconer
Hearts	H 4-0 Falconer, Angus, McDougall (2)
Celtic	A 1-2 McDougall
Dundee	A 2-1 McDougall, Stark
St. Mirren	H 4-0 McDougall (2), Porteous, Stark
Hibernian	A 3-0 McDougall, Black, Stark
Morton	H 3-1 McDougall, Simpson, Miller
Rangers	A 2-1 McDougall, Stark
Dumbarton	H 1-0 McDougall
Hearts	A 2-1 Stark, Cowan
Celtic	H 4-2 McDougall, Black (2), McKimmie
Dundee	H 0-0
Dundee United	A 2-2 McDougall (2)
St. Mirren	A 1-2 McQueen
Hibernian	H 2-0 McKimmie, Weir
Morton	H 5-0 McDougall, Weir, Cooper, Mitchell, Cowan
Rangers	H 5-1 McDougall (3), Black, McQueen
Dumbarton	A 2-0 Black, Stark
Hearts	A 0-2 Simpson, Weir
Celtic	H 3-0 Stark, Black, Cowan
St. Mirren	A 4-0 Stark (2), Black, Simpson
Dundee	A 5-0 Black (3), Hewitt, McQueen
Hibernian	H 4-2 Stark, Hewitt (2), Cowan
Dundee United	A 2-1 Black, Cowan
Rangers	H 4-0 Stark, McLeish, Angus, own goal
Dumbarton	A 1-1 Miller
Celtic	A 3-0 McDougall (3)
Hearts	A 2-1 Stark, McDougall
Morton	

birthday and admits to feeling a bit like a "father figure" when he looks at the tremendous array of young talent alongside him at Pittodrie.

"The average age of the side is about 22 or 23 so is it any wonder that the manager, Alex Ferguson, feels confident about keeping us together for a few years yet?

"Don't forget, although we won the title, we failed in three other competitions and we've set such high standards in the past that this is no longer acceptable to any of us."

Two of Aberdeen's four League defeats were sustained at Parkhead, home of their nearest challengers Celtic. The others were at the hands of a Dundee United side who also ended the Pittodrie dream of four consecutive Scottish Cup triumphs.

"Our game at Parkhead in February was a real crunch affair and the fact that Celtic beat us kept the race open a bit longer. Had we won we'd have clinched the title a lot earlier than we did."

The teams met again at Pittodrie two months later and it was Miller's headed equaliser that earned The Dons the point to clinch the title.

He adds: "Looking back, it was a tremendous achievement to win the title again. We lost three very experienced players in Gordon Strachan, Doug Rougvie and Mark McGhee last summer but managed to replace them."

"Frank McDougall joined us and settled in straight away. His record of 24 goals in 30 games tells its own story and he might have done better but for a groin injury that kept him out of the side."

"Young Tommy McQueen came from part-time football at Clyde and did extremely well, but if I was to single anyone out I'd have to go for Billy Stark, who scored 20 goals from midfield."

"All things considered, we had a great season as far as the League was concerned. We had disappointments in the Cups, perhaps, but there's a special significance about winning the title."

Salute
to the
Champions

THE DANDY



BACK ROW (left to right):
Eric Black, Stuart McKimmie,
Neil Simpson, Newcastle Cooper,
Ian Parton, Frank
McDouall, Willie Miller,
Dougie Bell.
FRONT ROW: Jim Leighton
(yellow jersey), Tom
McQueen, Billy Stark, Alex
Ferguson (manager), Alex
McLeish, Steve Cowan,
John Hewitt.



Salute
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Champions

THE DANDY DONS



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Write exclusively to: Jimmy Greaves, SHOOT, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS. £10 for Star Letter, £4 for others published. Overseas readers receive SHOOT T-shirts (please state size: small, medium or large). When writing please mention the two features you liked best in the latest issue.

BEST OF THE WEEK



This week's Star Letter and £10 winner comes from Peter Harris of Kirkstone Crescent, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria.

Brilliant Bangor

Congratulations to Bangor City on reaching the Welsh Cup Final. What are their chances of winning next season's Cup-Winners' Cup?

DELWYN JONES, LLANFAIR P.G., GWYNEDD.

Well if Wrexham can beat Port and give Roma a scare, who knows what Bangor can achieve. I was rightly ticked off for not mentioning them sooner in On The Ball and Bangor's success, coupled with Telford's fine F.A. Cup run, proves just how much talent there is in non-league football.

We want more

Scottish football would be better with more teams in the Premier Division. Having to face each other four times a season is boring for players and fans alike.

KAREN RANKINE, METHIL, FIFE.

I know I'd find it rather boring, but most Scotsmen say the ten-team Premier Division is working. There are certainly no plans afoot to revert to the old 18-team system. I may be an Accies man, but even I realise that promoting teams like Hamilton would not increase crowds.

Wally of the week

John Wark has got to be Liverpool's worst signing of all time and should be sold immediately. I do not understand how he gets into their team.

SREEKUMAR PILLAI, SELANGOR, MALAYSIA.

I'll tell you how John Wark gets into the Liverpool team. He gets into his car and drives to Anfield. Then he gets changed, runs out and plays a good game of football. I don't expect a wally like you to appreciate what an outstanding player he is, but just look at the number of goals he scores from midfield.

Wembley Wrecker

The only person at the F.A. Cup Final who did not deserve his medal was referee Peter Willis. His handling of the big game was diabolical.

I expressed myself very strongly on the day and I'm now told the Referees' Association are thinking of taking civil action against me. But football is all about opinion and I stand by my statement that it was the worst refereeing ever seen at a Wembley Cup Final. He was inconsistent throughout and his decision to send-off Kevin Moran was ludicrous. The F.A. will deny it, but I feel referees are chosen as a reward for loyal service. By doing so, they are taking the risk of ruining a spectacle watched worldwide by some 500 million viewers. The Cup Final referee should be chosen on merit, and if that means we get Keith Hackett every year then that's OK by me.

Lay off Luther

Why don't critics lay off Luther Blissett? He's one of the most consistent goalscorers in the game but will never improve while the media are constantly on his back.

MIKE ORDIDGE, MALTON, N. YORKS.

As long as Luther is scoring goals for Watford, Bobby Robson won't forget him. Unfortunately, critics tend to get together and once one starts criticising a player they all jump on the bandwagon. When I was playing they said I was a luxury no team could afford. You've just got to go out there and prove them all wrong and that's exactly what Luther (right) is doing.

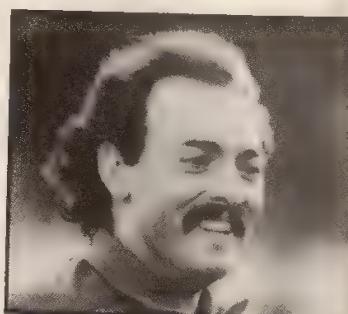


Bruce is no clown

All those people who call Bruce Grobbelaar a clown may like to know that Liverpool conceded less First Division goals than any other team last season.

G. AUSTIN, STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.

Bruce does some hairy things at times, but he also makes many outstanding saves. He is certainly no clown. He is a very good goalkeeper who has the personality to go with it. I only wish there were more like him.



Roker regrets

Sunderland's relegation came as no shock to anyone who's been a regular at Roker Park. Their scouts miss all the local talent and when they do get hold of a decent player like Paul Bracewell they immediately sell him.

JOHN HOWEY, SCARBOROUGH, N. YORKS.

I didn't see a great deal of Sunderland last season, but if their Milk Cup Final performance was anything to go by it was hardly surprising they went down. Their whole approach was too negative and they simply weren't good enough to stay up. Unfortunately, the poorer clubs have to sell to survive, but there's still enough talent in the North-East to sustain two First Division clubs. There hasn't been a shortage of good footballers up in that neck of the woods for 100 years.

Alan Hudson sounds a warning to relegated Stoke...

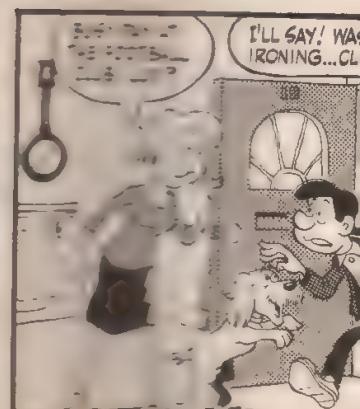
ANOTHER DROP!

STOKE CITY could follow the Wolverhampton Wanderers disaster trail and crash right through the Second Division to the Third!

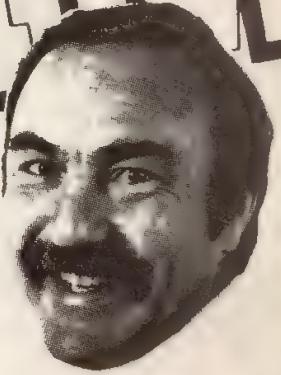
That's the warning from Stoke veteran Alan Hudson, who admits: "It's been a nightmare season. But our problems won't end next August just because we are at a lower level. Wolves discovered that to their cost and if Stoke aren't careful a second relegation is on the cards."

Hudson was plagued by injuries which kept him out for long periods of Stoke's disastrous season. But he says: "I blame everyone who has played. I blame the directors and I even blame the fans. Everybody has to shoulder

BOBBY



STOKE CITY



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Hudson was plagued by injuries which kept him out for long periods of Stoke's disastrous season. But he says: "I blame everyone who has played. I blame the directors and I even blame the fans. Everybody has to shoulder

the responsibility for what has happened at our club.

"The players just didn't do the business on the field, it's as simple as that. And the fans? Well, when you are winning they come but when you are losing and you really need them, they don't appear.

"Having said that, the blame always starts at the top. The directors stuck rigidly to their budget and the outcome is clear to see. In the end, you can have budgets but you need good players.

"You cannot beat experience and class, especially in the First Division, but we didn't have enough and they wouldn't go out and spend.

"We had the opportunity to buy an experienced player like Frank Worthington who would have helped all our kids along superbly. But we didn't go for players like that it makes me sick to see what's happened.

"We got out of trouble at the death the previous season. The chance was there then to build a brighter future, but we didn't take it."

No heart

Hudson won't accept criticism that he hasn't got his heart in Stoke soccer club.

"I'm gutted by what happened. I love this place and I still want to stay here and hopefully get us back into the First," he says.

"Now there is the problem of Second Division football in an area where First Division sides are close by.

"It's going to be tough attracting people to watch us when they can see the top teams a few miles away.

"Stoke has lost a lot of credibility through the way many things were done last season. Our main job now is trying to bring a bit of class back to the club."

"Whoever replaces Bill Asprey as manager at The Potties will have a very tough task indeed.

After an all-time record 31 League defeats and just 17 miserable points, let's hope that Hudson's warning has come in time to save Stoke further embarrassment.

BOO-HOO



Dick Millington

DON'T MISS
SHOOT
WEEK WEEK...

SUPER COLOUR

PAUL McGRATH.
Man. United's
Wembley ace —
Bashed by Big Ron!

Who are SHOOT'S Most
Exciting Player in
England and Scotland?
Find out next week.

Watford's Colin
West's Great Escape.

Gordon Cowans' Curse

SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO
Double-winning
Everton + Chesterfield
team.

● *Kerry Dixon's World
Cup Charge. Target
Man's Exclusive Report.*



PLUS...
Canon League Results for
1984-85 + How They
Finished... and Who
Won What.

All this and more
in soccer's most
colourful, exciting
magazine!



What's new?
Mark Irwin
knows...

RELEGATED Stoke want former hard-man defender DENIS SMITH to be their new manager, but cannot afford the compensation they'd have to pay York to break Smith's three-year-contract.

They have now turned their attentions to JOHN TOSACK, who recently resigned as boss of Sporting Lisbon.

Bates goes pop

● Chelsea chairman KEN BATES has written some of the words to an anti-hooliganism pop song, aptly titled 'The Moron'.

Musician TED JONES was given a £6,000 commission to record the song by shop owner JOANNA LONSDALE, whose windows were smashed after the Chelsea v Sunderland Milk Cup clash.

Ted says: "We hope all peace-loving supporters will adopt it as their anthem to shame the louts into quitting for good. I'm a keen Chelsea fan myself."

NEWCASTLE'S BOLDER MOVE

NEWCASTLE are still interested in Liverpool's reserve goalkeeper BOB BOLDER and are set to make a move for him as soon as he recovers from his broken ankle.

Frustrated at two years as understudy to BRUCE GROBBELAAR, Bolder has decided not to renew his contract and was on the point of signing for Newcastle when he suffered his injury last month.



FREE MOSS

Winger DAVID MOSS has been given a free transfer by Luton. The 33-year-old (left) says: "I'd rather drop down a division or two and play first team football than stay at Luton and spend all my time in the reserves."

IRWIN AT

WATFORD boss GRAHAM TURNER knows why his team weren't too successful last season — the joys of being married!

Says Taylor: "I've never had so many attached players in my squad and leadership has been missing because of the bachelor life so many of them are leading."

"Players are more mature and stable when they're married because they're more aware of their responsibilities to other people."

"I'd love to be buying them all wedding presents this summer."

VILLA GO FOR THOMPSON

ASTON VILLA have put West Brom's striker GARRY THOMPSON at the top of their wanted list, and are confident of getting him this summer for something like £30,000.

With PETER WITHE now a free agent, Villa are looking for a player in a similar mould. And the 25-year-old fits the bill perfectly.

Albion boss JOHNNY GILES wants to sign him, but with attendances at The Hawthorns so low money is tight.

Villa's players have already told manager TURNER that Thompson would be perfect for them. Meanwhile, Norwich and Portsmouth are also interested in Withe.

● IPSWICH TOWN have got the needle over their summer tour.

The East Anglian club were due to go to the Ivory Coast in Africa, and it cost them £700 to have the touring party injected against certain diseases. But now the tour has been cancelled!

● HIBS have signed a unique sponsorship deal with Glasgow insurance firm Insave which will help pay for proposed ground improvements costing £460,000.

The deal is worth £100,000 to Hibs, but will be worth more should they reach a Cup Final or qualify for Europe next season.

● Birmingham boss POM SAUNDERS has been given £250,000 to strengthen his team for their First Division return, and his first signing could well be Burnley's former Leeds defender KEVIN MCNAUL.



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AT LARGE

Watford boss GRAHAM TURNER knows why his team weren't too successful last season — the joys of being unmarried!

Says Taylor: "I've never had so many unattached players in my squad and leadership has been missing because of the bachelor life so many of them are leading."

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VILLA GO FOR THOMPSON

ASTON VILLA have put West Bromwich Albion striker GARRY THOMPSON at the top of their wanted list, and are confident of getting their man this summer for something like £300,000.

With PETER WITHE now a free agent after refusing to sign a new contract, Villa are looking for a younger player in a similar mould. And the 25-year-old Thompson fits the bill perfectly.

Albion boss JOHNNY GILES wants to keep the man who led his team's scoring charts by a mile last season, but with attendances at The Hawthorns at an all time low money is tight.

Villa's players have already told manager GRAHAM TURNER that Thompson would be perfect for them and negotiations are likely to take place soon.

Meanwhile, Norwich and Portsmouth are leading the chase for Withe.

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Latest quip from Wolves boss TOMMY DOCHERTY: "I wanted to sign one of the Vietnamese boat people, but he told me 'No thanks, I've just left one sinking ship!'"

PETER WITHE cannot understand why England 'keeper PETER SHILTON has never attracted any real interest from the Italians.

Says Peter: "They pay out millions for strikers yet ignore a goalkeeper of exceptional quality.

"When we played together at Forest we reckoned Peter saved us at least 15 points a season.

"In my book he's the best goalkeeper in the world."

ANSWERS

EURO SCENE: 1. Fifth. 2. Aberdeen. 3 Real Madrid (Spurs) and Videoton (Manchester United). 4 Trevor Steven.

GOALS: 1. Cambridge. 2. Dixon. 3. Stoke, Arsenal, Sunderland. 4. Wilson for Derby and Ipswich; Geddis for Barnsley and Birmingham. 5. Brighton.

TRANSFERS: 1. Manchester City. 2. Steve Williams at £550,000 from Southampton to Arsenal. 3. Partick Thistle. 4. Doncaster to Leeds United.

WORLD CUP: 1. Robson. 2. Ian Rush. 3. Group Six. 4. False — they won 3-2.

WINNER: A goal by David Langan ensured Oxford United's promotion to the First Division.

MANAGERS: 1. Swindon's Lou Macari. 2. Coventry City. 3. George Graham. 4. David Hay (Celtic), who won the Scottish Cup.

SIGNED UP: Manchester United's Mark Hughes.

CHAMPIONS: First — Everton. Second — Oxford. Third — Bradford City. Fourth — Chesterfield. Scottish Premier — Aberdeen. First — Motherwell. Second — Montrose.



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Salute
to the
champions

Record-breakers

We pay tribute to Third Division Champions **BRADFORD CITY** and the supporters who died so tragically in the fire at the Valley Parade on Saturday, 11 May, 1985. This special feature is dedicated to them.

ALL the world knows about the terrible anguish and suffering of Bradford City — but all those who perished in the blaze at Valley Parade would not want the achievements of the team to be forgotten.

This had been a momentous season for the club — their best-ever in fact, which was why more than 10,000 fans turned up for that fateful last match against Lincoln City.

They wanted to join in the celebrations of a club which has scarcely known success for half a century. Not since 1938 have Bradford been in the Second Division, and not since 1929 had they won a Championship trophy. So Trevor Cherry's team deserved all the accolades that are going. From the opening day of the season when they beat Cambridge

2-0 they were always in the forefront of the race.

Several club records were broken during the course of the season, including most wins in a season (28) and most away wins (13) and if Lincoln had been beaten City would have overhauled Oxford's record points tally for the Third Division.

The management team of Trevor Cherry and Terry Yorath, bred on success together at Leeds United, have been cutting their teeth at Bradford. They knew what they wanted and they got it with astute backing from a progressive board of directors and a basically young team that listened and learned.

Envisaged

Only the managerial duo, goalkeeper Eric McManus and striker John Hawley are on the wrong side of 30, and it's envisaged that only McManus will play regularly in the team next term.

Free transfer signings David Evans and John Hendrie had outstanding seasons and confirmed that City's scouts can spot potential when they see it. Evans was the Player of the Season, Hendrie contributed 12 goals.



Bobby Campbell (far left) and John Hendrie (ed Bradford's goalscorers).

inspiration to all those around him, and he's been one of the most consistent goalscorers the club has ever possessed.

He was sold to Derby County two years ago

to help save the club from extinction — in fact

the sale was conducted by the receiver in

charge of the club's affairs — but he was soon

bought back and it's principally his goals that

have shot City into the Second Division.

It took him five games to get off the mark

last season but once he did there was no

stopping him. In all, he managed 26 goals, and

he's now nearing 150 in League games alone

for the club in only five years.

Unbeaten

When Campbell is doing his stuff the team plays well, typified by one early season run of 11 matches unbeaten, in which he scored nine times.

Next season will be a testing one for him but he is already relishing the prospect of taking on men like Noel Blake, Glenn Keeley, Paul Dyson and Gordon Chisholm.

Cherry finds it difficult to look forward for the most humdrum and unimaginable reasons, but he is not afraid of taking his team into the Second Division, and believes that they can continue to be successful.

Thousands of folk outside Bradford will wish him and his team well.

They loved football

SELDOM can triumph and trauma have come so quickly together. Within an hour of singing in celebration, over 50 supporters of Bradford City had died.

The Valley Parade tragedy has been the ONLY talking point in the City since that horrific Saturday changed the lives of so many people who loved football.

Yet out of adversity comes strength. Bradford City will overcome their darkest hour and in a strange way the dreadful catastrophe has bound everyone together.

By the time the players can bear thinking about kicking a ball again, the scars will be beginning to heal and there will be a united resolve among the people to get behind them.

In the same way that the whole world was shaken by the Munich air disaster and its repercussions for Manchester United, so the television pictures which were beamed worldwide will guarantee everlasting sympathy to Bradford City.

Next season Bradford will be playing in the Second Division for the first time in 48 years. That will be incentive enough.

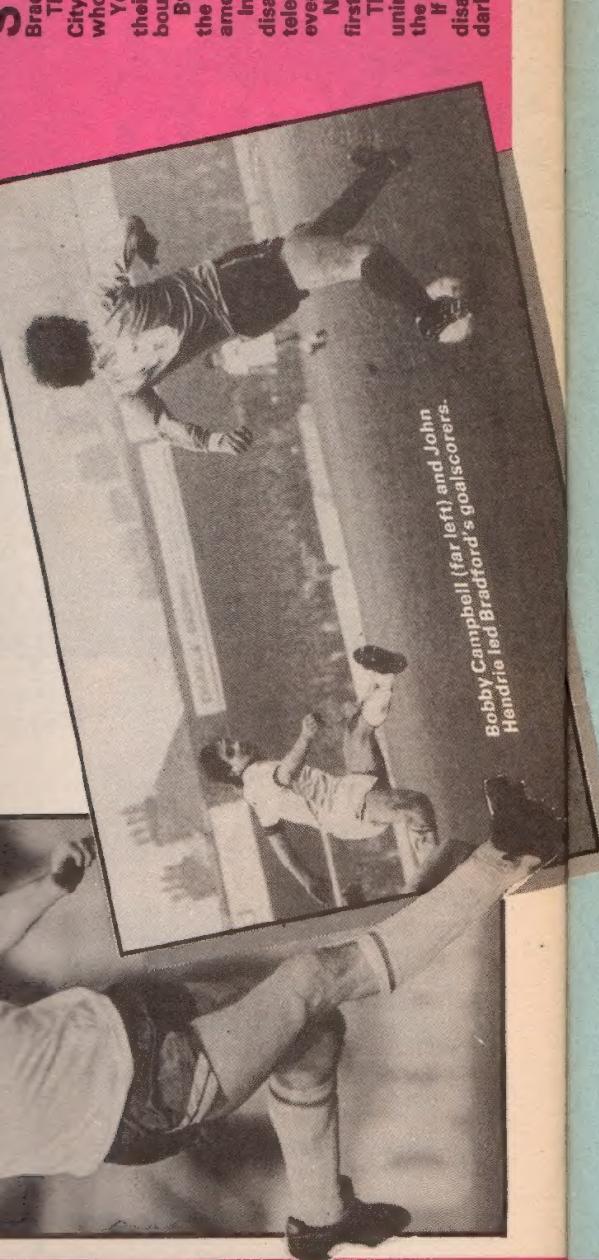
The blazing inferno which made a game of football seem so unimportant, has actually accelerated the need for a new stadium for the club. That will be forthcoming.

If the grief and the devastation of Bradford can help prevent similar disasters then at least something can be salvaged from one of the darkest days in the history of the game.

Bradford City

BACK ROW (left to right): John Hawley, Chris Withe, Mark Ellis, Stuart McCall, David Evans, Eric McManus, Tony Clegg, David Mossman.
FRONT ROW: Don Goodman, Martin Singleton, Greg Abbott, Peter Jackson, John Hendrie, Bobby Campbell.

Within an hour of singing in celebration, over 50 supporters of Bradford City had died.



Bobby Campbell (far left) and John Hendrie led Bradford's goal scorers.

Bradford City

BACK ROW (left to right): John Hawley, Chris Withe, Mark Ellis, Stuart McCall, David Evans, Eric McManus, Tony Clegg, David Mossman.
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Focus on

David CHELSEA

Full name: David Robert Speedie.
Birthplace: Glenrothes in Fife.
Height and weight: 5ft 6½ins. 10st. 6½lbs.
Married: Yes, to Joanne. We have two
children — Charlotte (3) and David (nine
months).
Home: We have a three-bedroomed semi-
detached house in Camberley, Surrey.
Car: Renault 18 Mk2 Turbo.
Nickname: Speedo — for obvious reasons.

Previous clubs: My first League
club was Barnsley and from
there I went to Darlington.
Chelsea manager John Neal
signed me in September, 1982 for
£70,000.

Team you supported as a boy:
Leeds United.

Football hero of childhood:
Denis Law.

Job or trade before turning pro: I
was a miner at Brodsworth
Colliery.

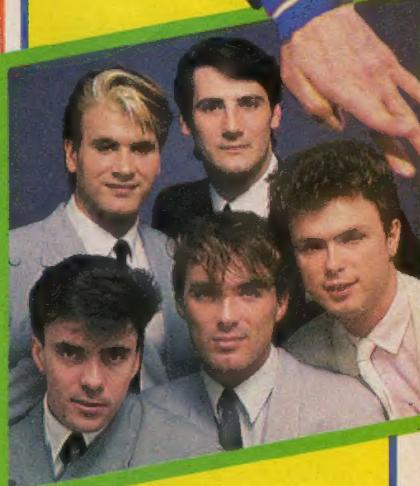
Favourite current player: French
skipper Michel Platini — quite
simply because he's got the lot.

Most memorable match: Beating
Leeds 5-0 at Stamford Bridge in
1983-84 to win promotion to the
First Division. I was so pleased, I
didn't even mind that I didn't
score!



Speedie

Biggest disappointment:
Pre-season training at
Aberystwyth. It was murder!
Superstitions: I always like to be
the last one out on to the pitch.
International honours: One
Scotland Under-21 cap and one
full cap.
Club honours: Promotion to the
Second Division with Barnsley in
1981 and the Second Division
Championship with Chelsea.
Favourite other sports: Golf, pool
and snooker.
**Favourite other sports
person:** Sebastian
Coe (below, left).



Unlike most athletes, he's always
managed to bounce back after
injury to silence his critics.

Hobbies: I'm a bit of a D.I.Y. man,
always doing odd jobs around
the home.

Favourite actor and actress:
Charles Bronson and Jane
Fonda.

Favourite TV shows: Emmerdale
Farm and Match of the Day.

Favourite musicians: Spandau
Ballet (above) and Barbara
Dickson.

Biggest influence on career:
George Herd and Martin
Wilkinson, coaches when I
was at Darlington. They
always had faith in my ability
to succeed.

Ambitions for 1985-86: To
play regularly for Scotland.

Long-term ambitions: To be
happy and healthy, and the same
for my family.